

MR. ARASHI'S
AMAZING
FREAK SHOW



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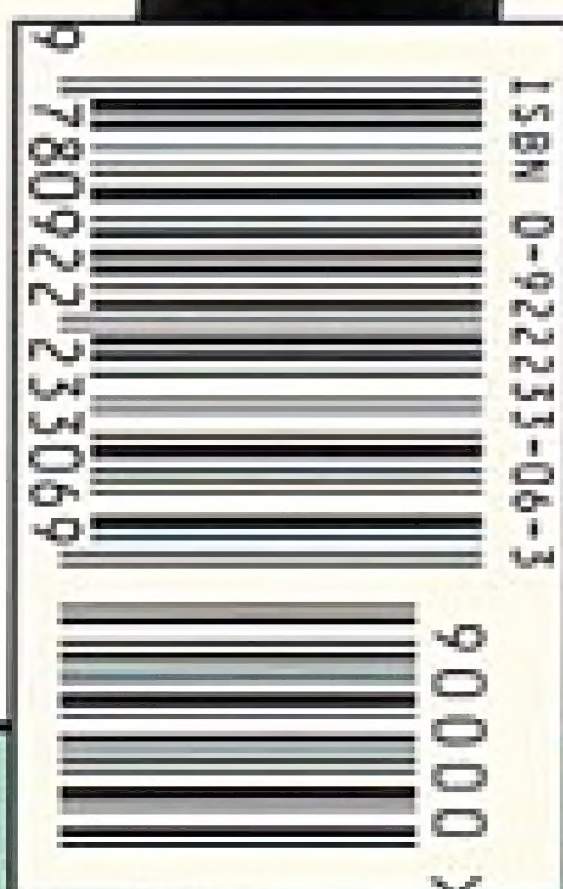
M
A
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Mr. Arashi's

Suehiro Maruo's
astonishing and powerful
illustrations create a
masterpiece of surrealism
in his retelling of this
classic Japanese tale of a
little lost orphan ensnared
in a traveling freak show.

Suehiro Maruo lives in
Tokyo, and MR. ARASHI'S
AMAZING FREAK SHOW is
the first of his works to
be translated into English.



**MR. ARASHI'S
AMAZING FREAK SHOW**

MR. ARASHI'S AMAZING FREAK SHOW



SUEHIRO MARUO

TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE BY
YOKO UMEZAWA AND LAURA LINDGREN

BLAST BOOKS
NEW YORK

THE CAST



MR. ARASHI



SNAKE WOMAN



THE GIANT



HOHICHI THE HUMAN PRETZEL



IKKA KITA¹



MIDORI



MASAHITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER



FATHER & MOTHER



THE HUMAN WORM



THE MUMMY MAN



HIBARI MISORA²



SPOTTED GIRL³



KANABUN THE BOY-GIRL

¹1883-1937 RADICAL NATIONALIST

²POPULAR JAPANESE SINGER

³DOES NOT APPEAR IN STORY.

大人
客留

SOLD OUT

ホッパ

CHAPTER
ONE

PATIENCE
AND
OBEDIENCE







**SLIMY GREEN SNOT!
MOUNDS OF
STINKING EARWAX!**

**SEE THE DIRTIEST TEETH
IN THE WORLD!
OOZING STIES!**



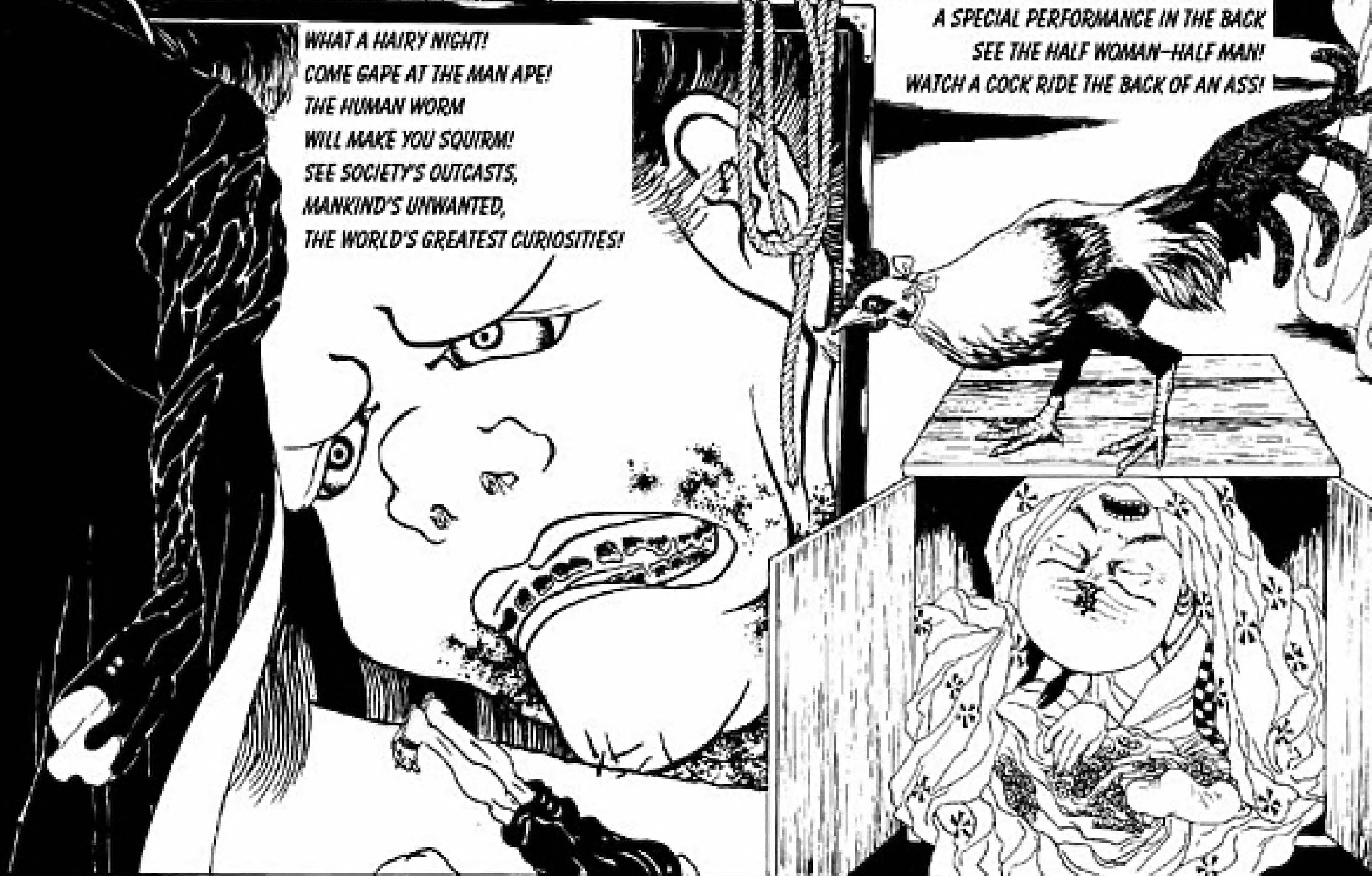
RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES,
MARVELS AND MONSTROSITIES!

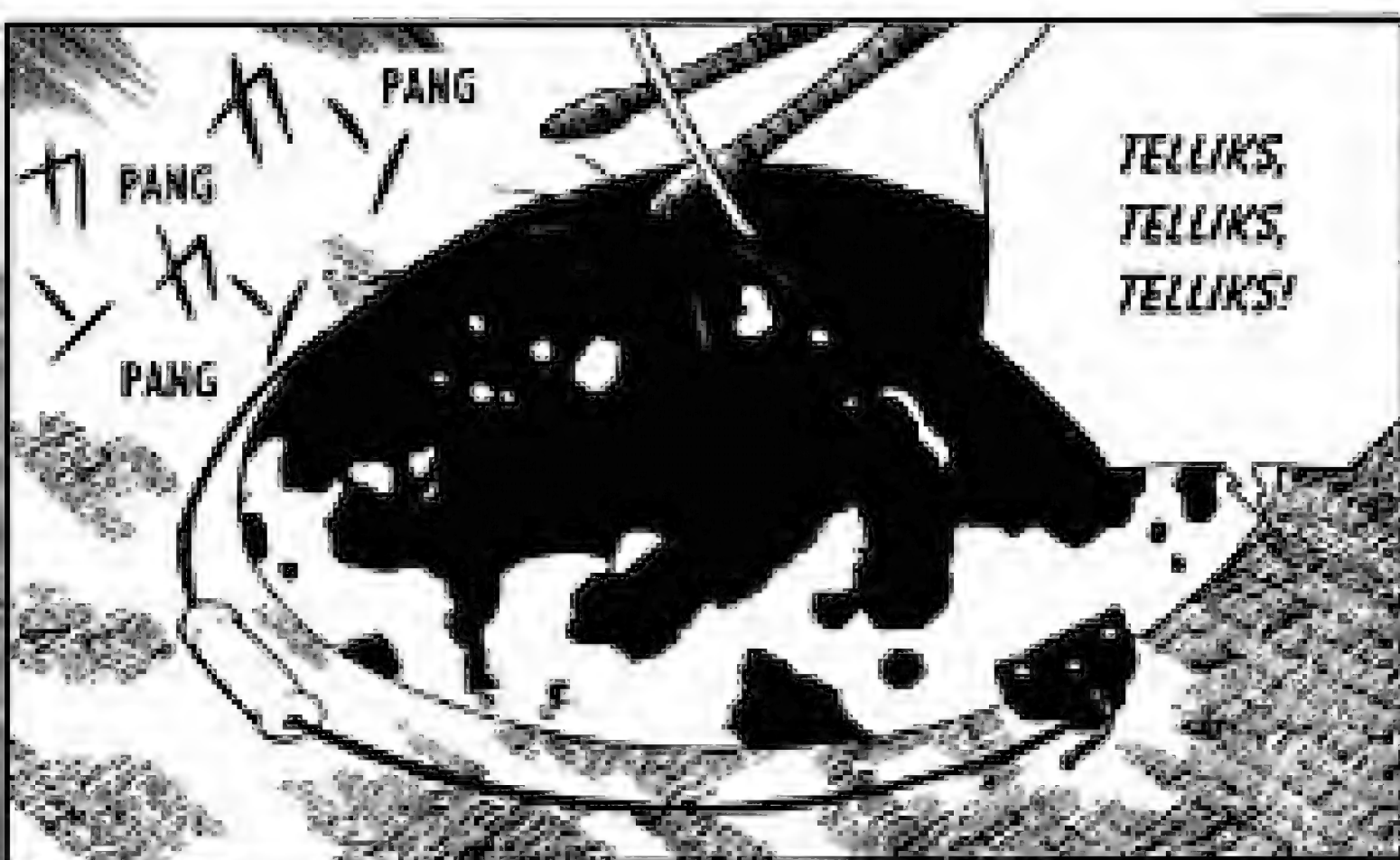
LIVE—LIVE—LIVE—
A HEAD FULL OF PUS!
IT'S ASTOUNDING!
IT'S SPELLBINDING!
IT'S BEYOND YOUR WILDEST DREAMS!



FOR THE EXTRA CURIOUS AND EXTRA DARING
A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE IN THE BACK
SEE THE HALF WOMAN—HALF MAN!
WATCH A COCK RIDE THE BACK OF AN ASS!

WHAT A HAIRY NIGHT!
COME GAPE AT THE MAN APE!
THE HUMAN WORM
WILL MAKE YOU SQUIRM!
SEE SOCIETY'S OUTCASTS,
MANKIND'S UNWANTED,
THE WORLD'S GREATEST CURIOSITIES!





TELLIKS,
TELLIKS,
TELLIKS!

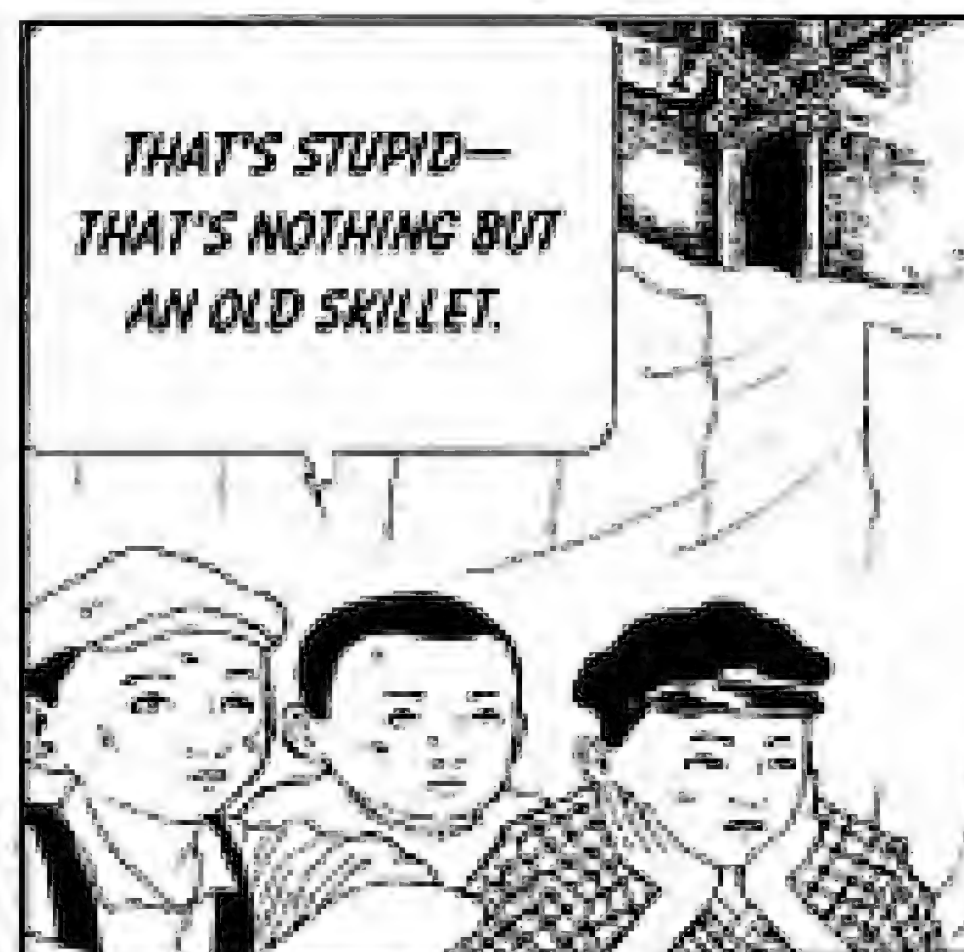


STEP RIGHT UP,
STEP RIGHT UP!
SEE THE TERRIFYING TELLIKS!!
TELLIKS WITH
THE HIDEOUS BLACK FACE!!



THAT'S WHY
... WELL...
TELLI...

AHEM.
WELL, YES,
IT'S AN UPSIDE-DOWN
SKILLET...



THAT'S STUPID—
THAT'S NOTHING BUT
AN OLD SKILLET.

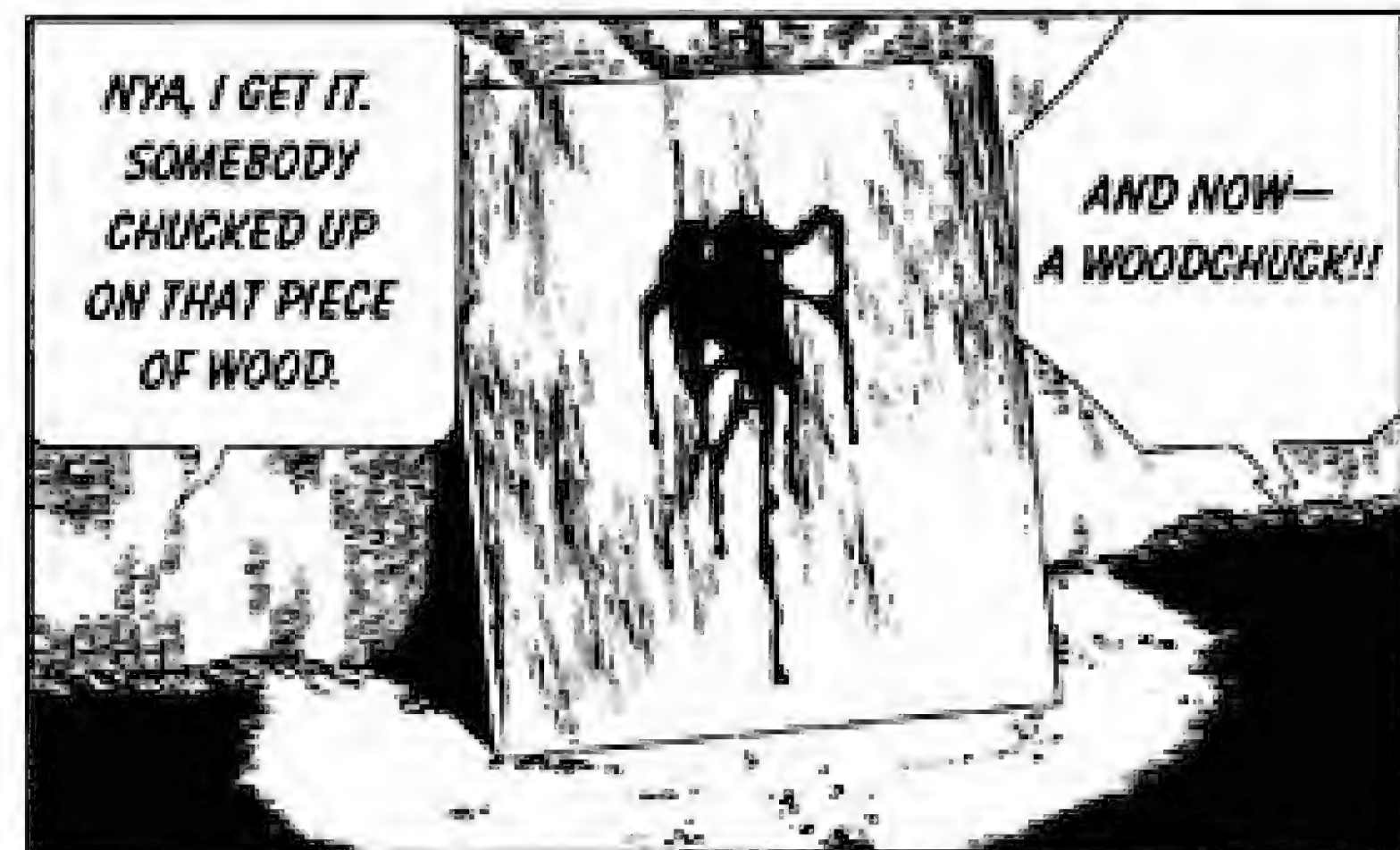


SEE
THE TELLIKS!



OF COURSE NOT.

DAMN BRATS!!
HEY, DID YOU
LITTLE STINKERS
PAY FOR THE SHOW?



NYA, I GET IT.
SOMEBODY
CHUCKED UP
ON THAT PIECE
OF WOOD.

AND NOW—
A WOODCHUCK!!





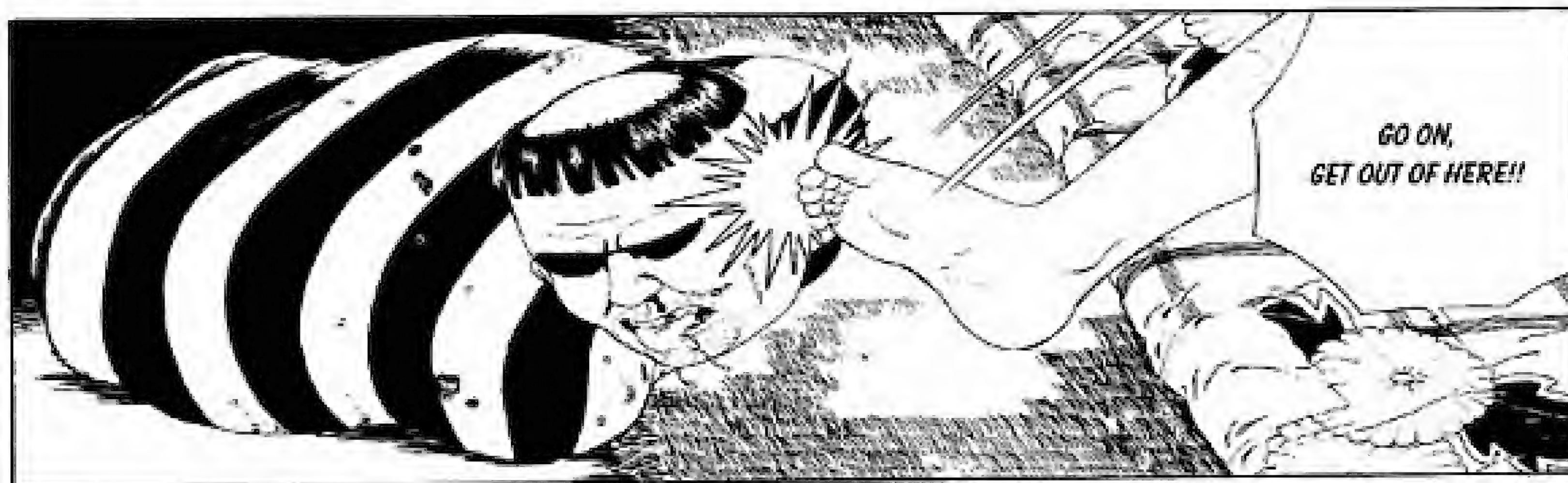
Dear Madame Cassandra:

I am twelve years old. Three years ago my father went away and never came back home. So my mother and I were alone, but then she died and I didn't have any place to live

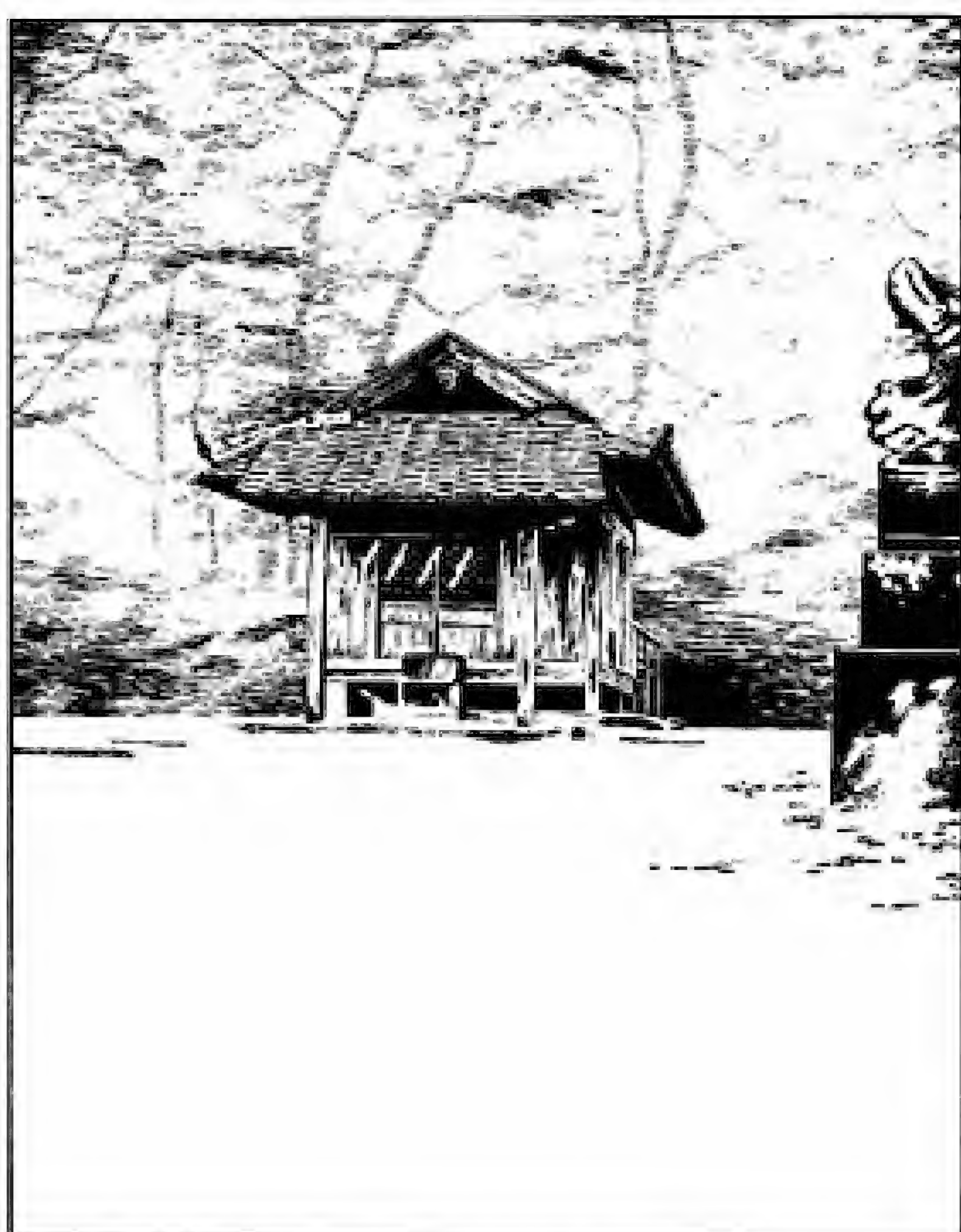


anymore. One day I met the owner of a freak show and he tricked me and ever since then I've been forced to work in his awful show. My life is so horrible, sometimes I wish that I could die. I can't go to school. I can't sleep at night, I'm so worried. What will become of me? What should I do?









IF THEY
FOUND OUT,
THEY WOULD
EAT YOU.

YOU'LL BE
ALL RIGHT NOW.
I'LL BE
YOUR MOMMY.
BUT DON'T TELL
ANYBODY.

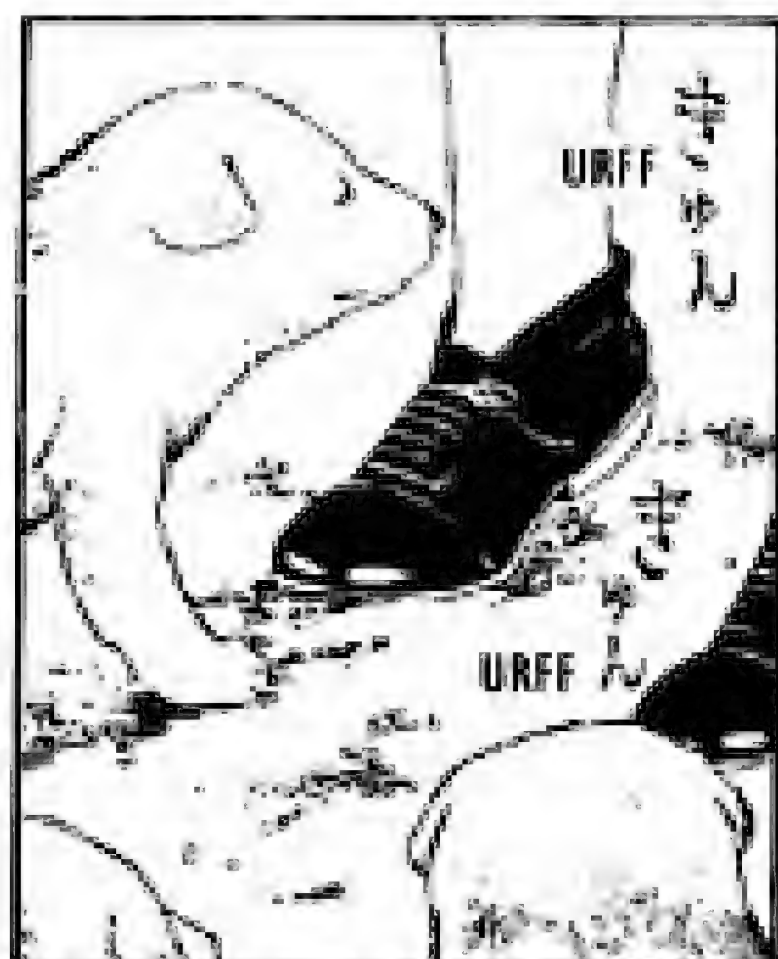


HERE,
I'VE BROUGHT
YOU SOMETHING
TO EAT.



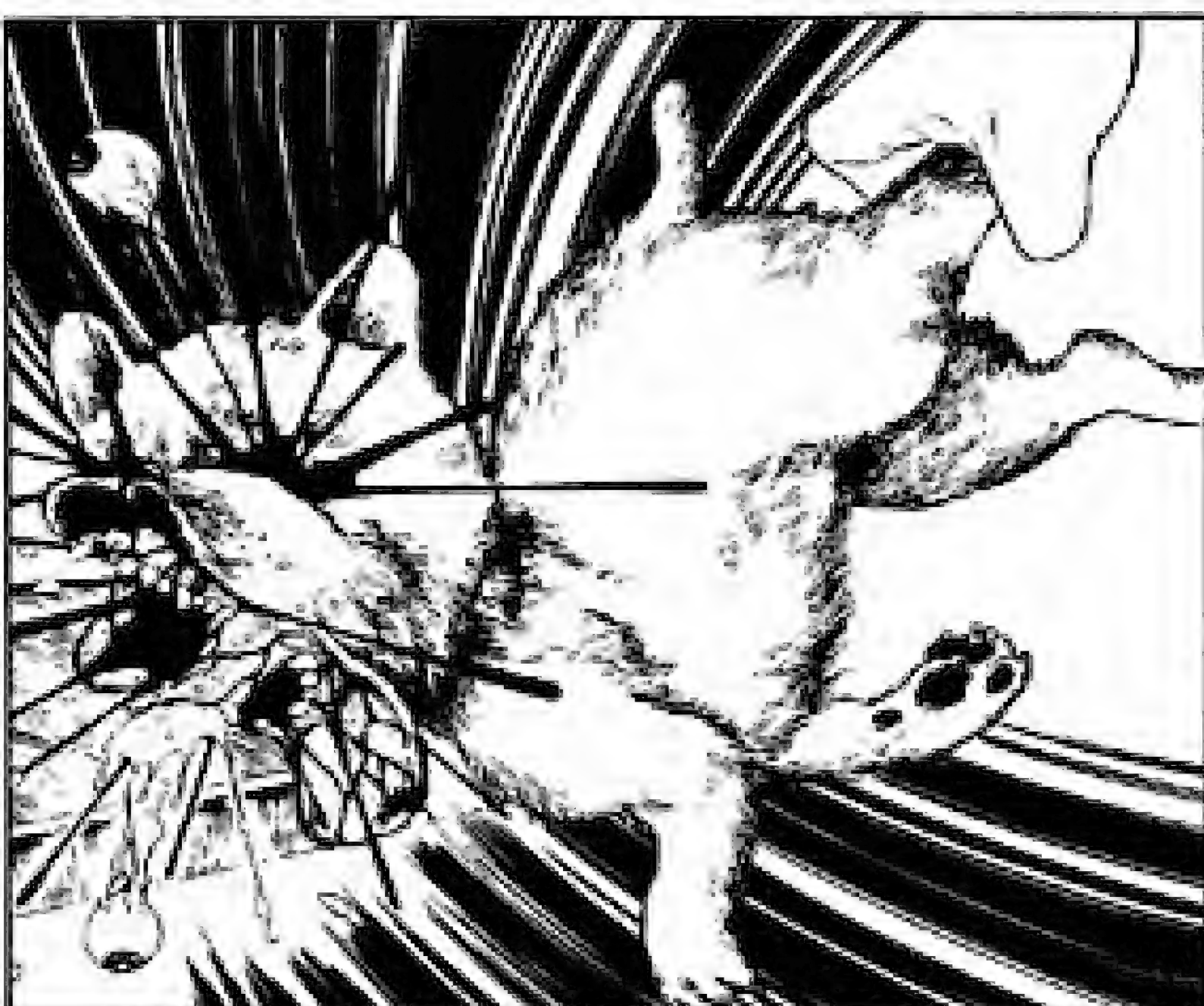


SEE YOU LATER
BE GOOD!



MIDORI
SURE TREATS
THOSE
PUPPIES NICE.





WE HAVEN'T
HAD MEAT
FOR MONTHS.

OOOH,
IT'S DELICIOUS,
ISN'T IT?

DOG!!

NOBODY SELLS
DOG MEAT,
YOU KNOW THAT.

I DIDN'T
BUY IT.

HOW'D YOU
GET THE
MONEY
FOR MEAT?

OH,
WHAT A HARD,
CRUEL LIFE
YOU'VE HAD!

SHE'S WEEPING
FOR JOY
BECAUSE IT
TASTES SO GOOD.

HEY, MIDORI,
WHAT'S THE
MATTER
WITH YOU?

BA-TUMP

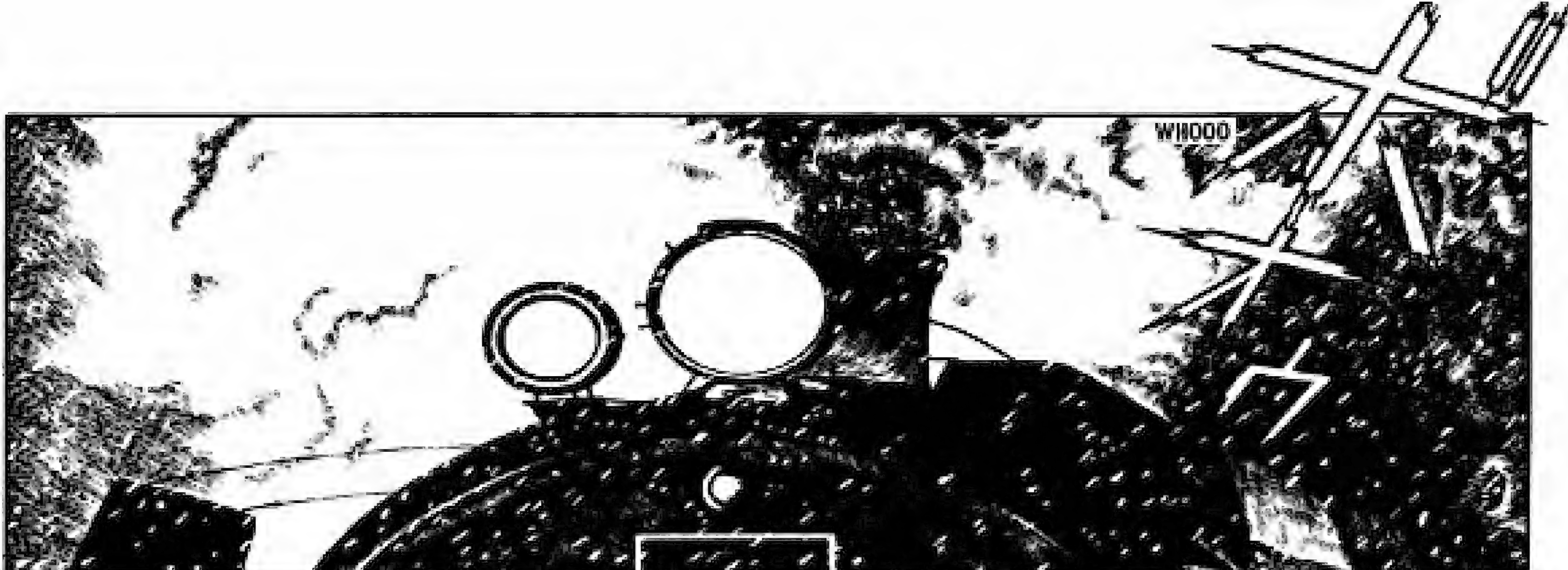
MY LITTLE DOGGIES!
MY LITTLE DOGGIES!



**CHAPTER
TWO**

**THERE'S
NO PLACE
LIKE
HOME**







WHOO, HUH!
WHAT THE
HELL ARE
YOU DOING?



WHOOO,
WHOOO

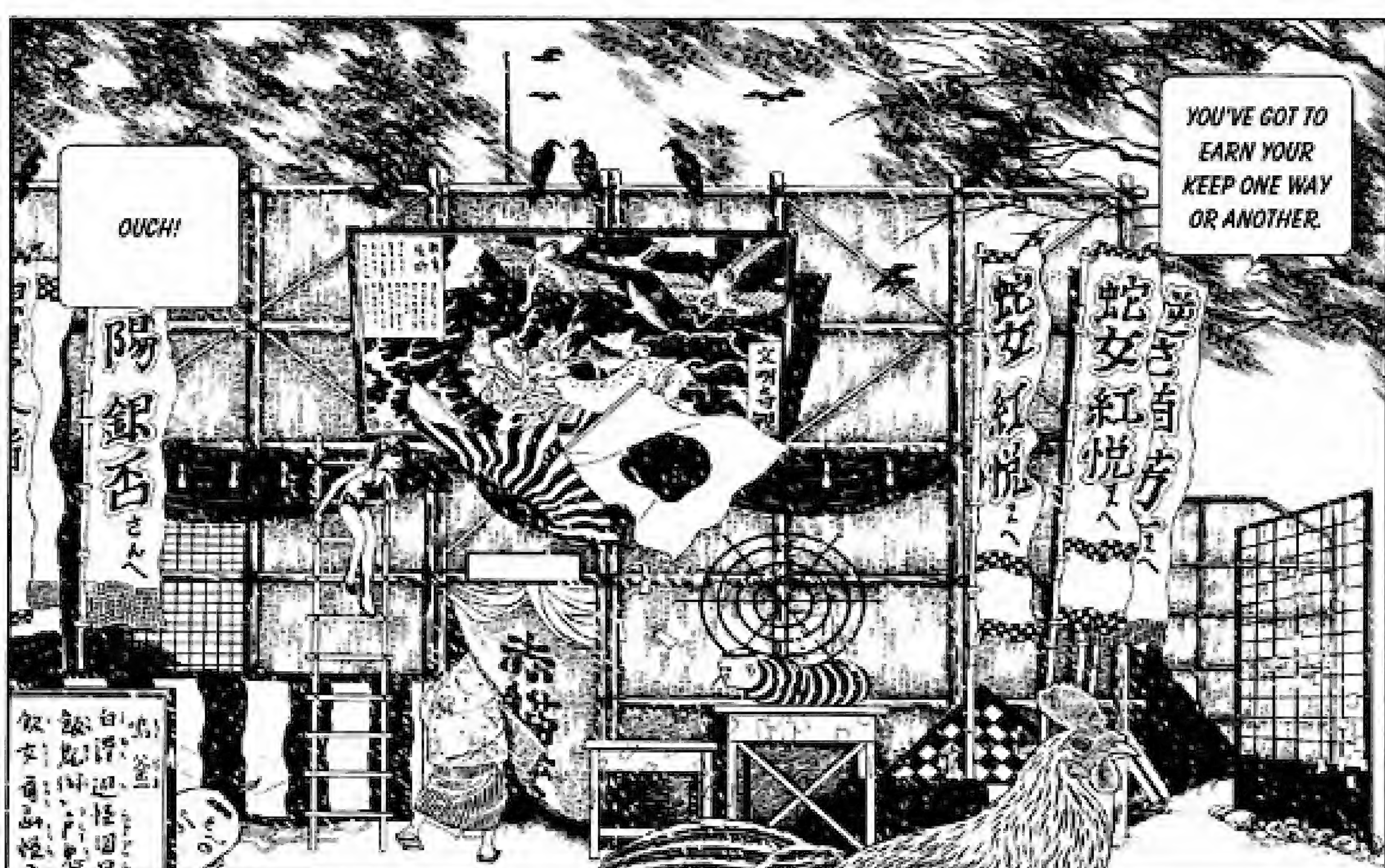


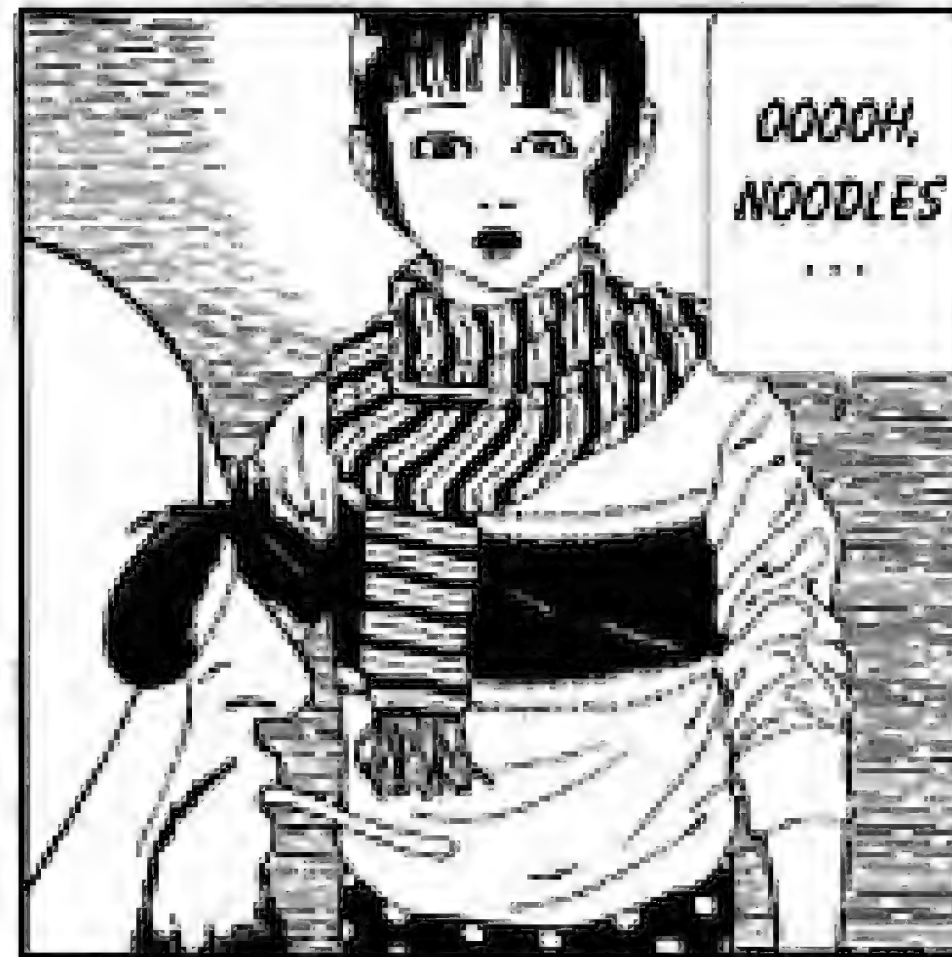
YOU THINK
THEY'D TAKE
YOU BACK
TO TOKYO?

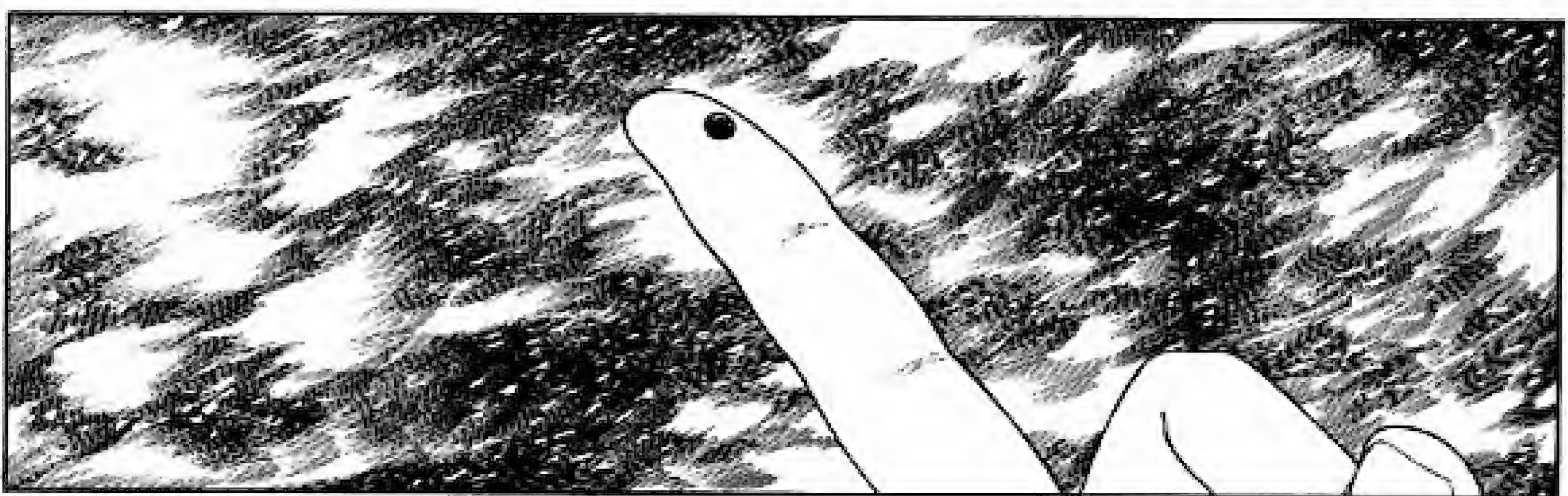
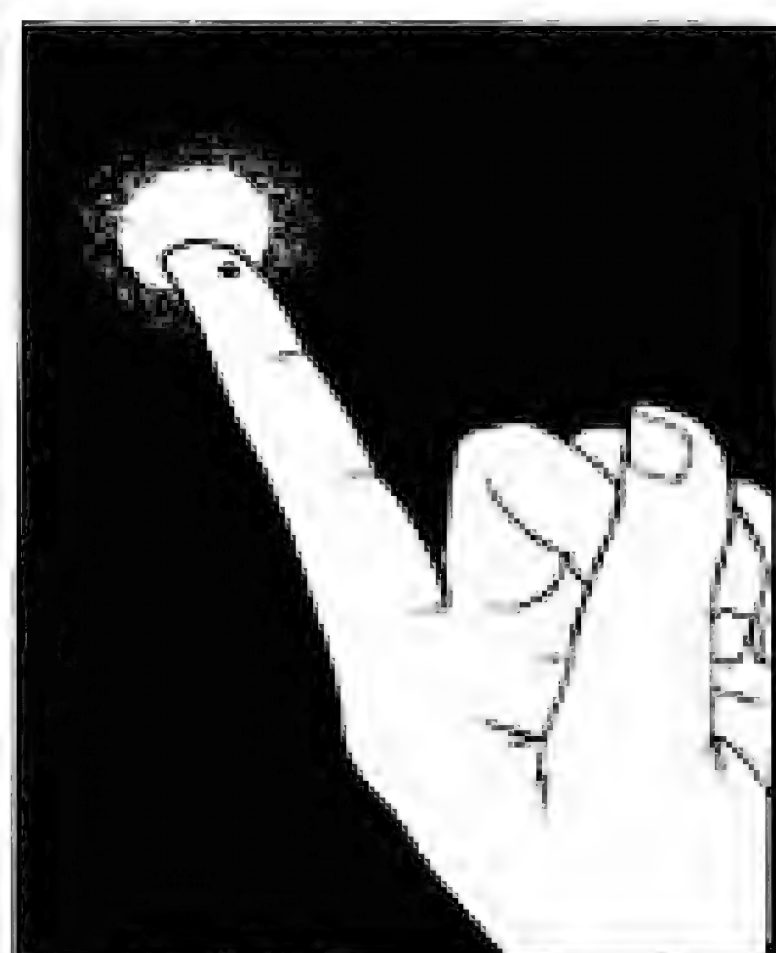
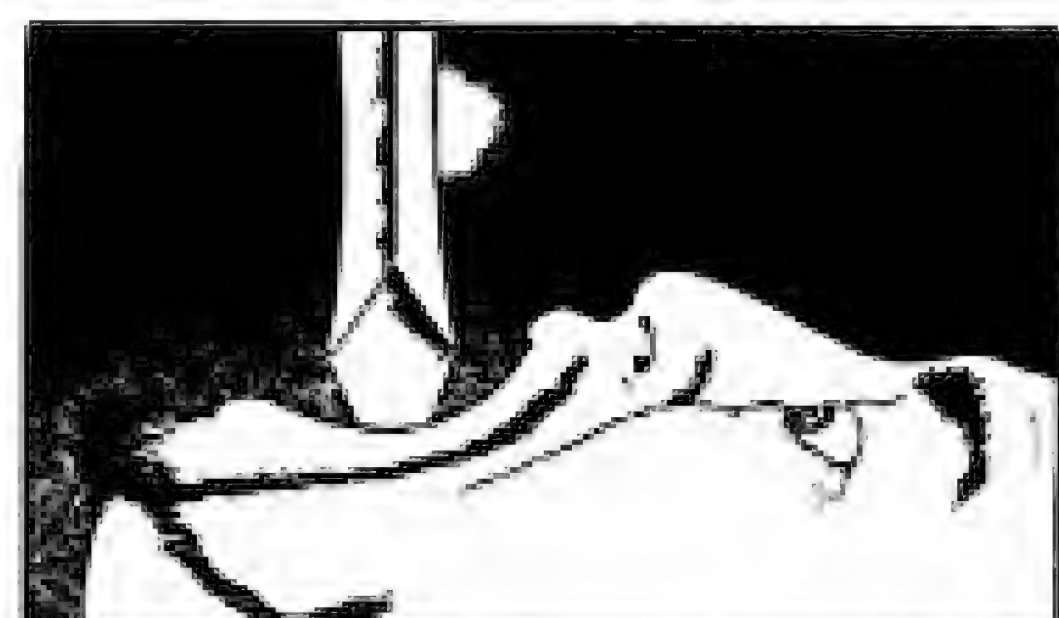
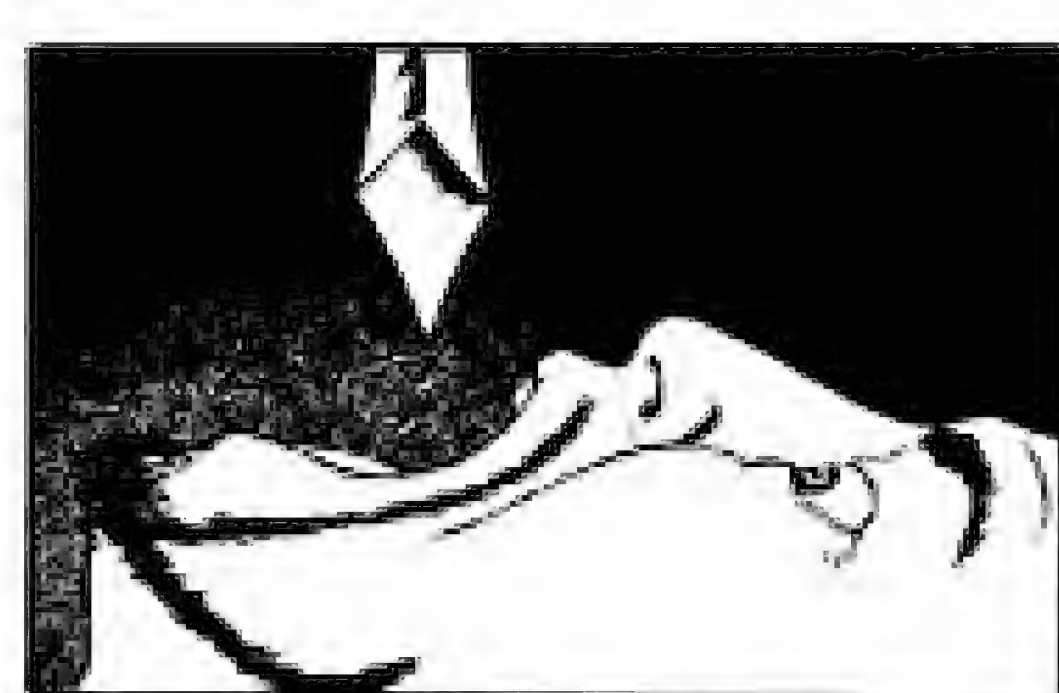
ALL YOU DO
IS HANG
AROUND
WATCHING
THE TRAINS.

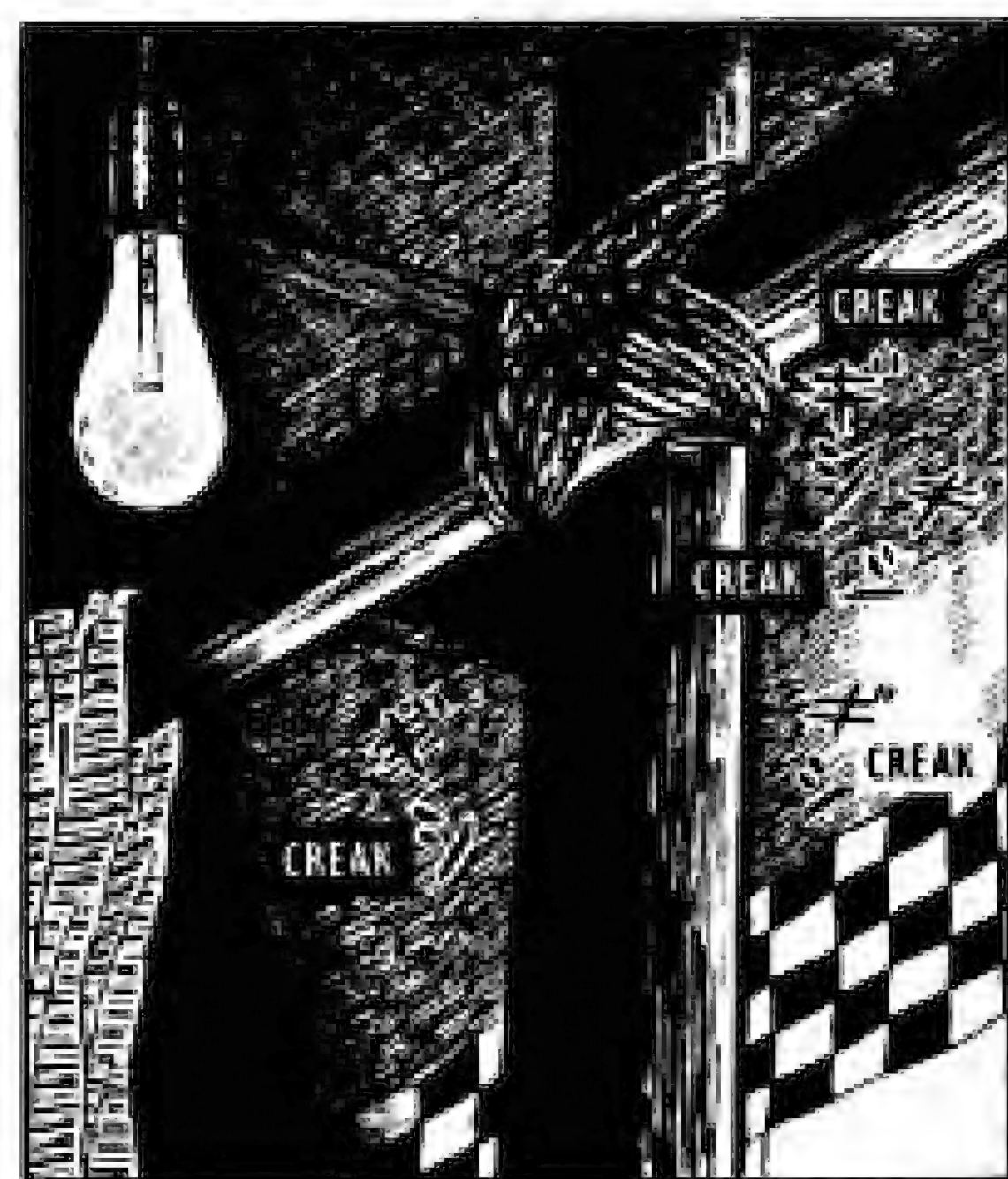


WHOO, WHAT'S
THAT, THE AIR
WHISTLING IN
YOUR EMPTY
LITTLE HEAD?











NO!
GO AWAY!!

AREN'T
YOU COLD
ALL BY
YOURSELF?

WHY DON'T YOU
SLEEP WITH
THE REST OF US?



IT'S TOO COLD.
WE COULD
STAY WARM
TOGETHER.

I CAN'T
SLEEP
EITHER.



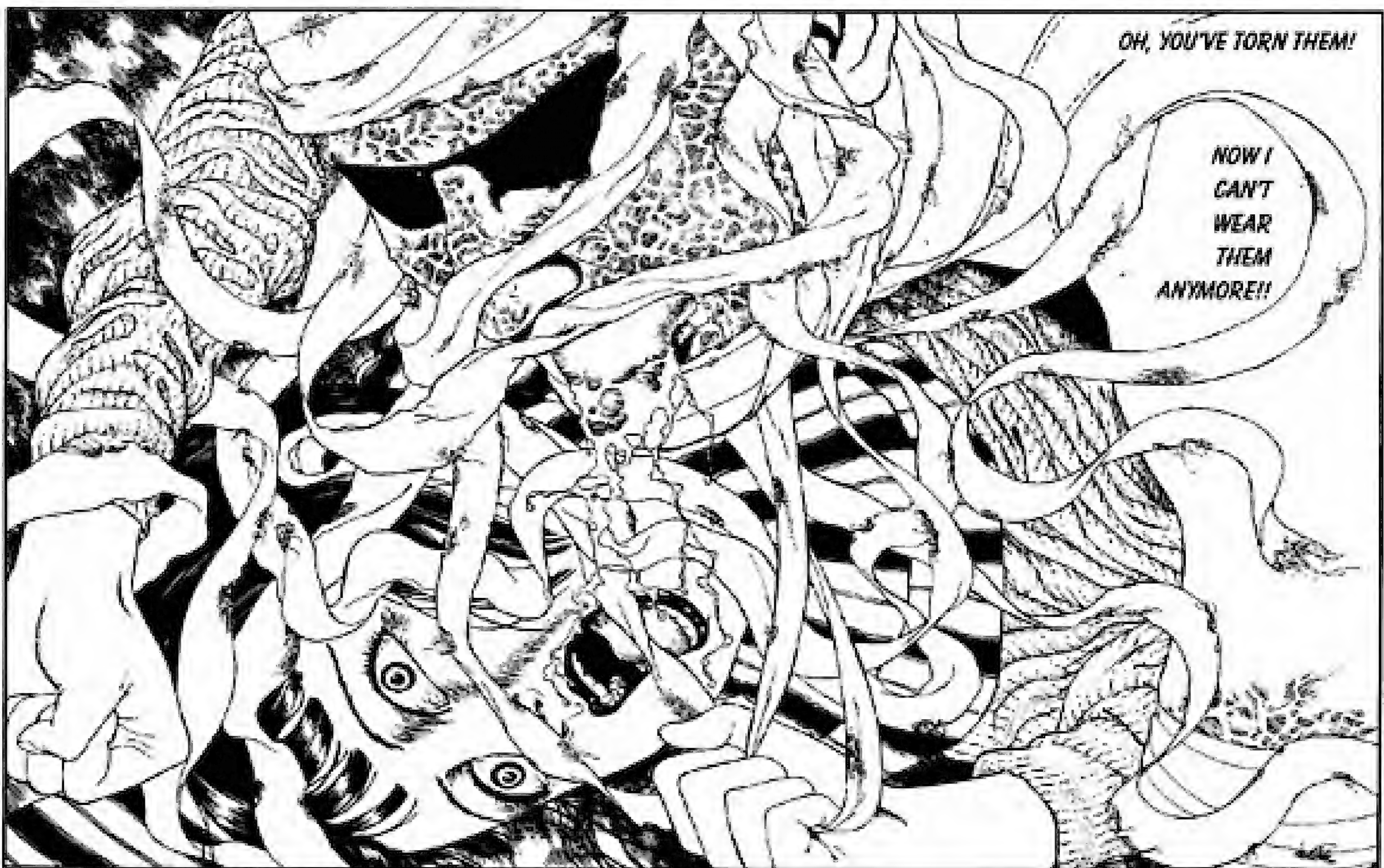
YIPES!



OH, COME ON. WHAT
ARE YOU TALKING
ABOUT? YOU'VE BEEN
LAID BEFORE.
I KNOW IT.

GET AWAY
FROM ME!

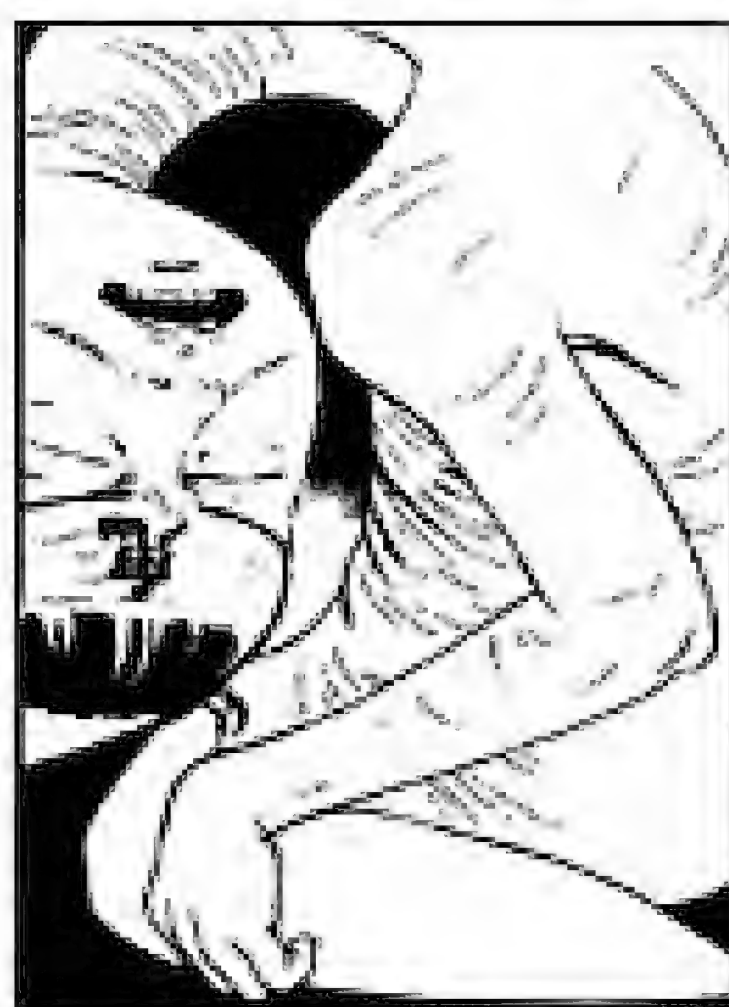
YOU SMELL
ROTTEN!
I HATE YOU!







OH, IF ONLY MY HEAD COULD ESCAPE THIS WORLD.

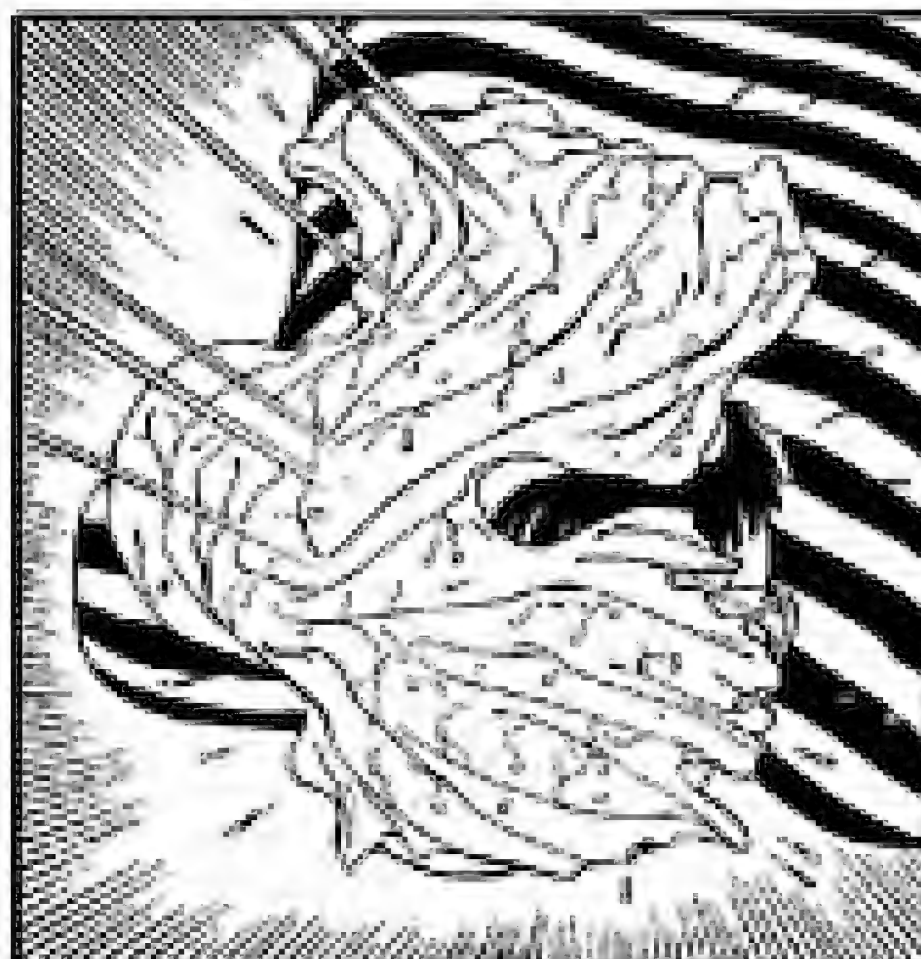




MIDORI,
AFTER YOU GIVE
HONICHI A BATH,
GIVE ME ONE TOO.



MONSTERS!!



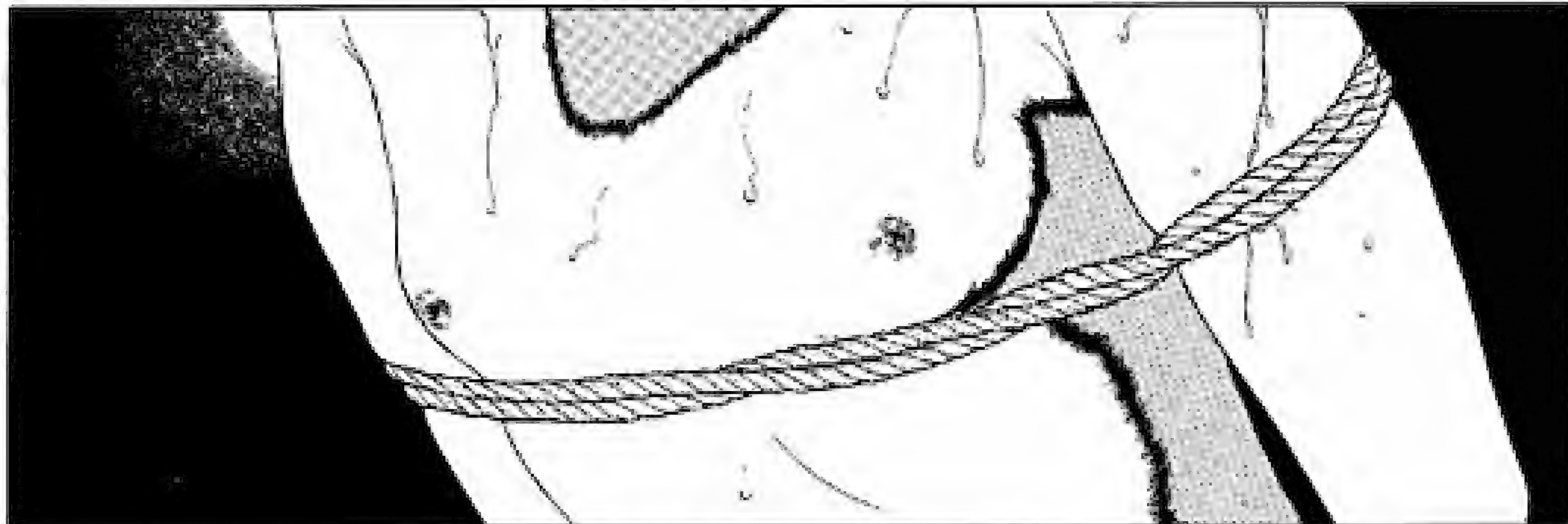
HURRY UP,
IT'S COLD!



MONSTERS
MONSTERS
MONSTERS!!

MONSTERS!!
MONSTERS!!





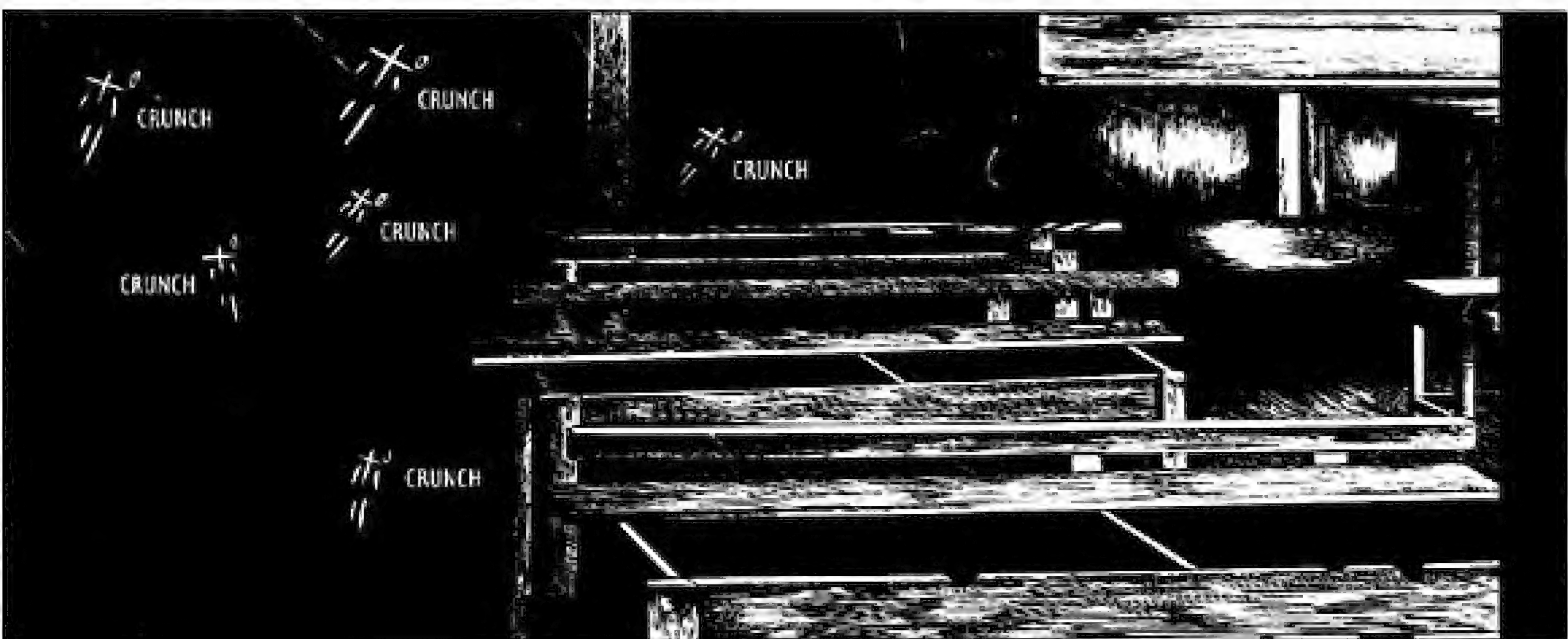
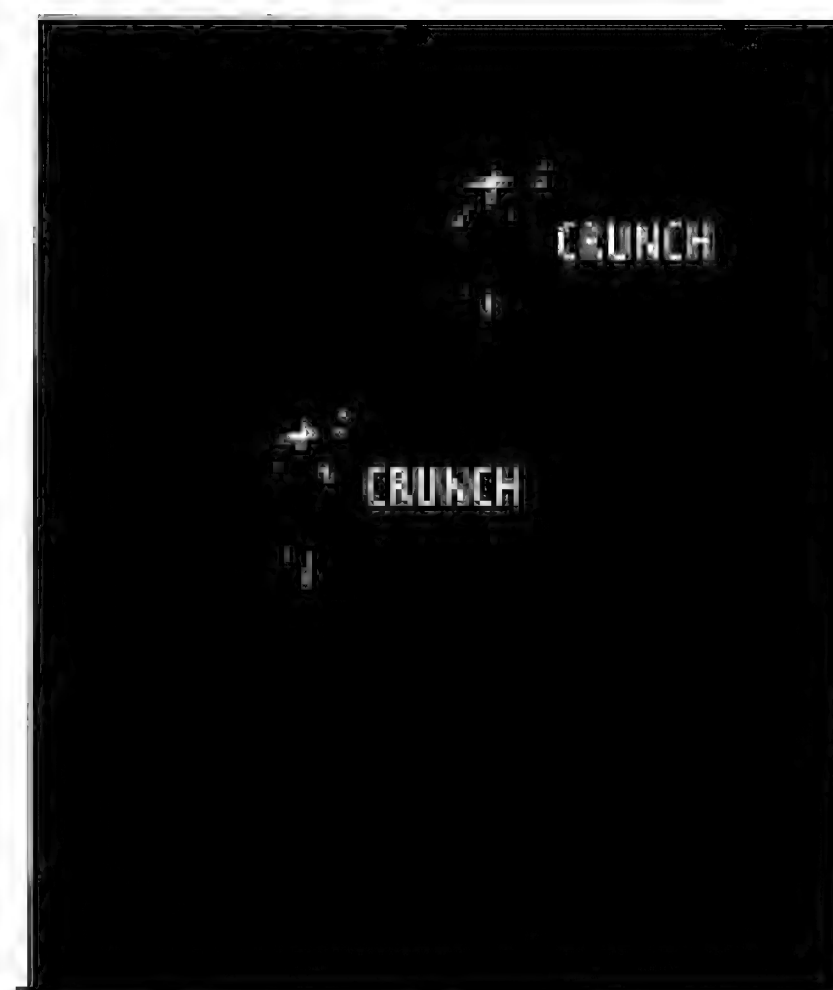
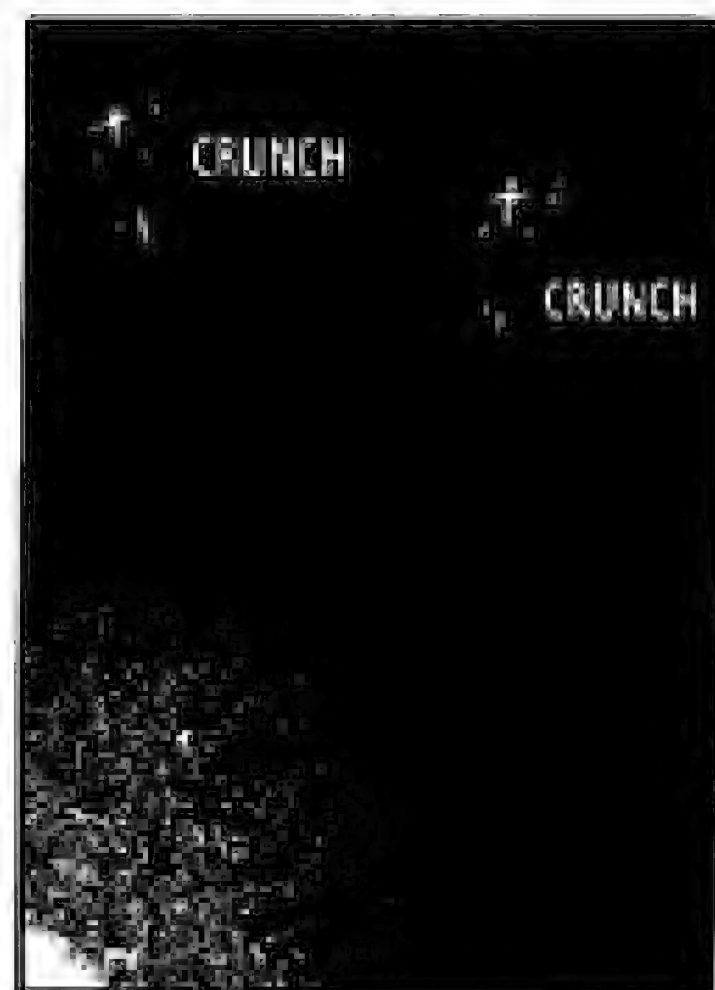
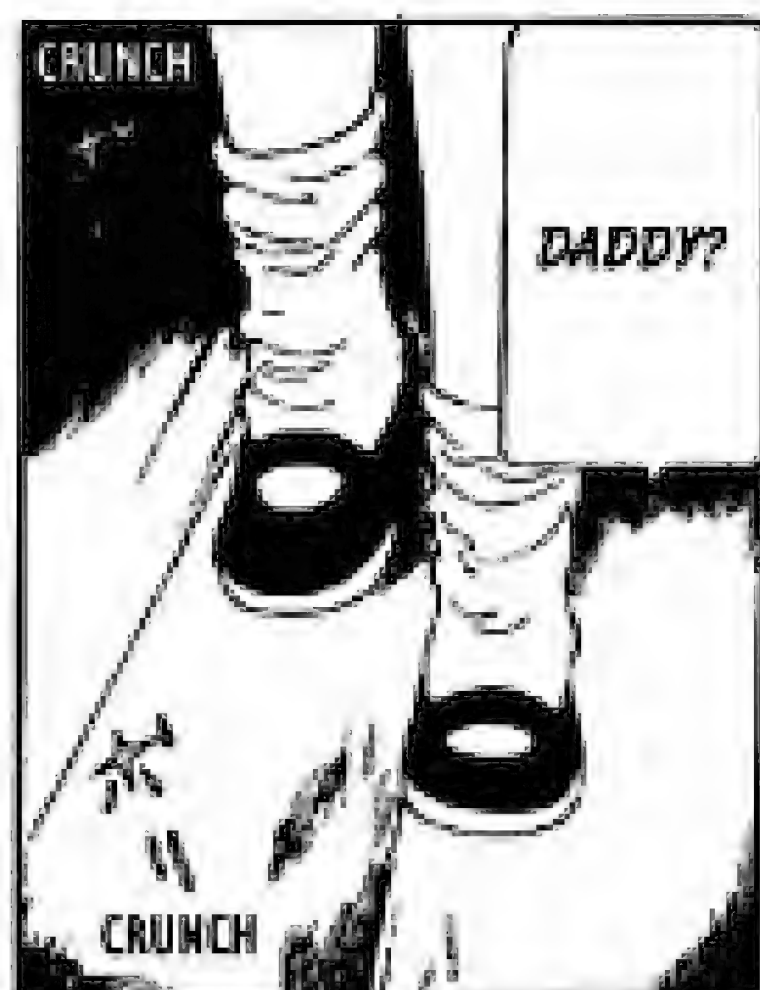
**CHAPTER
THREE**

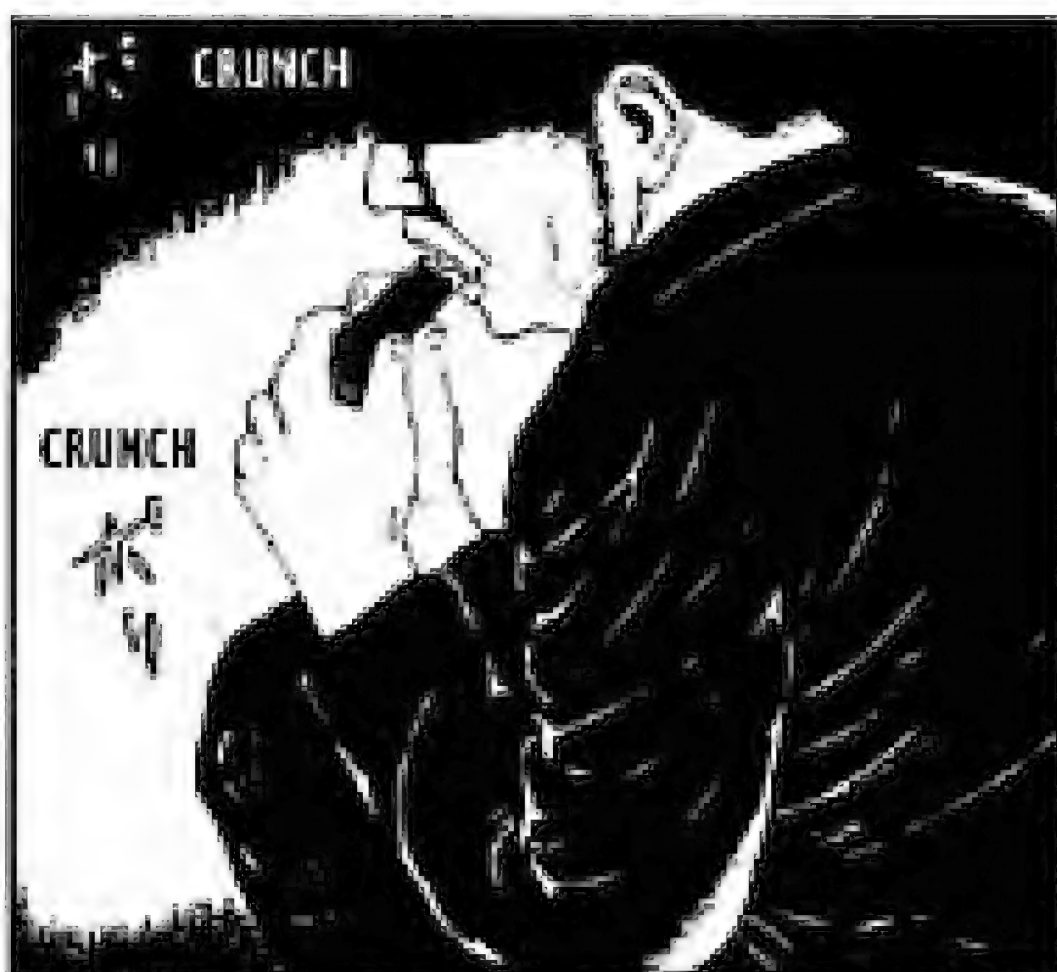
**OUT OF
THE
BLUE**

YIPES!

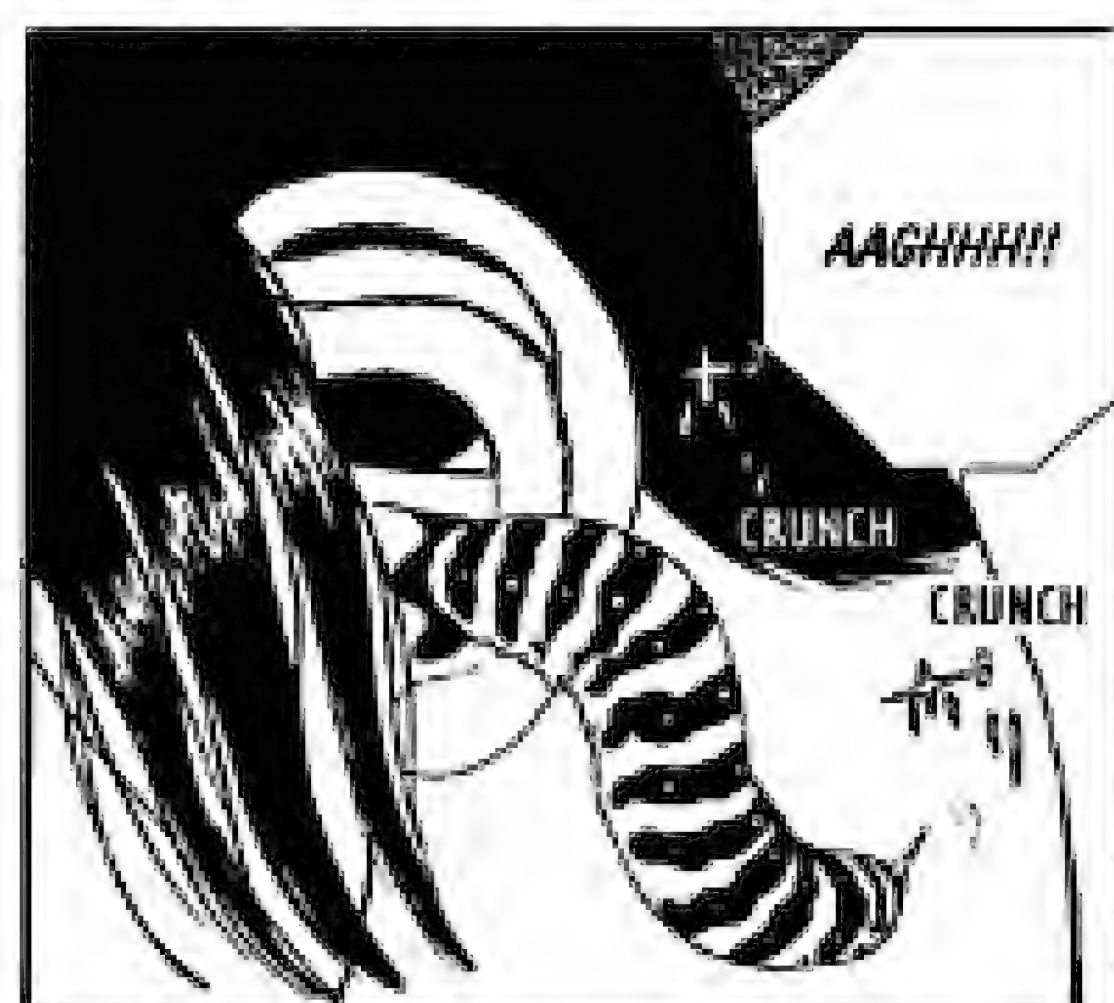
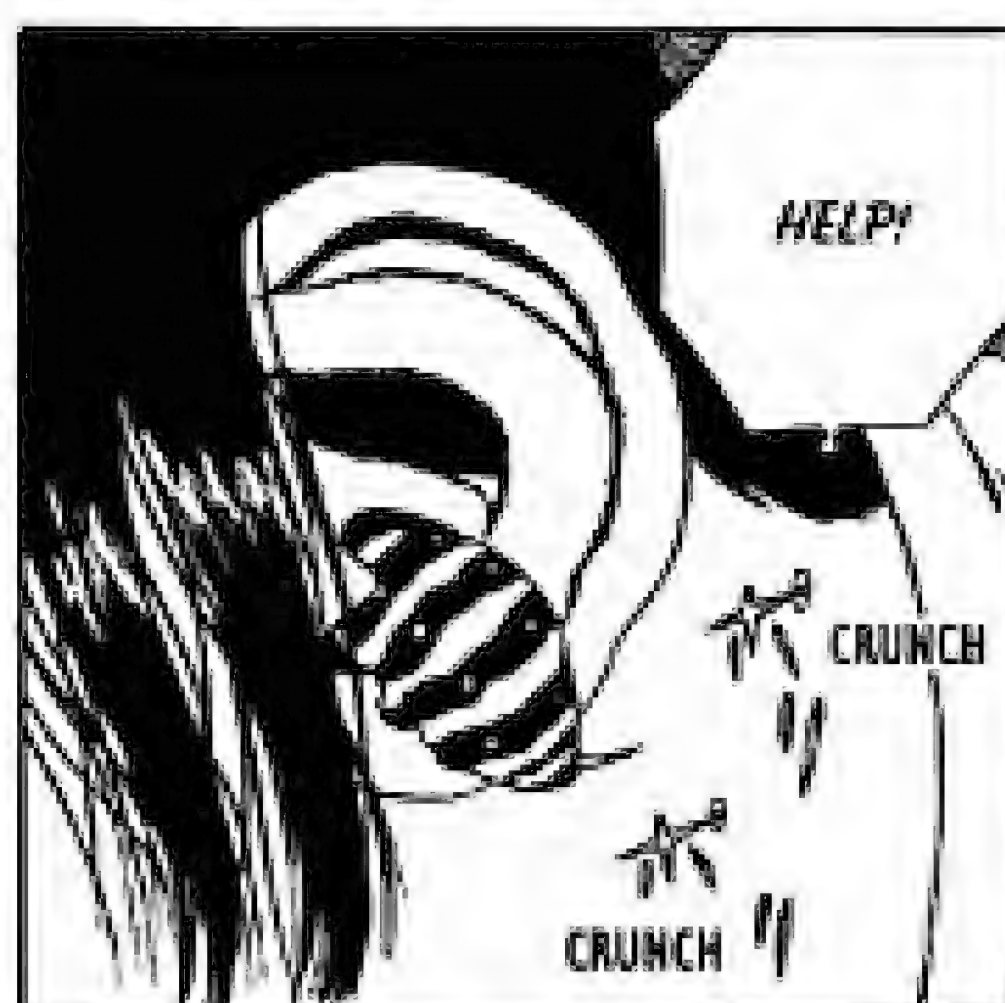
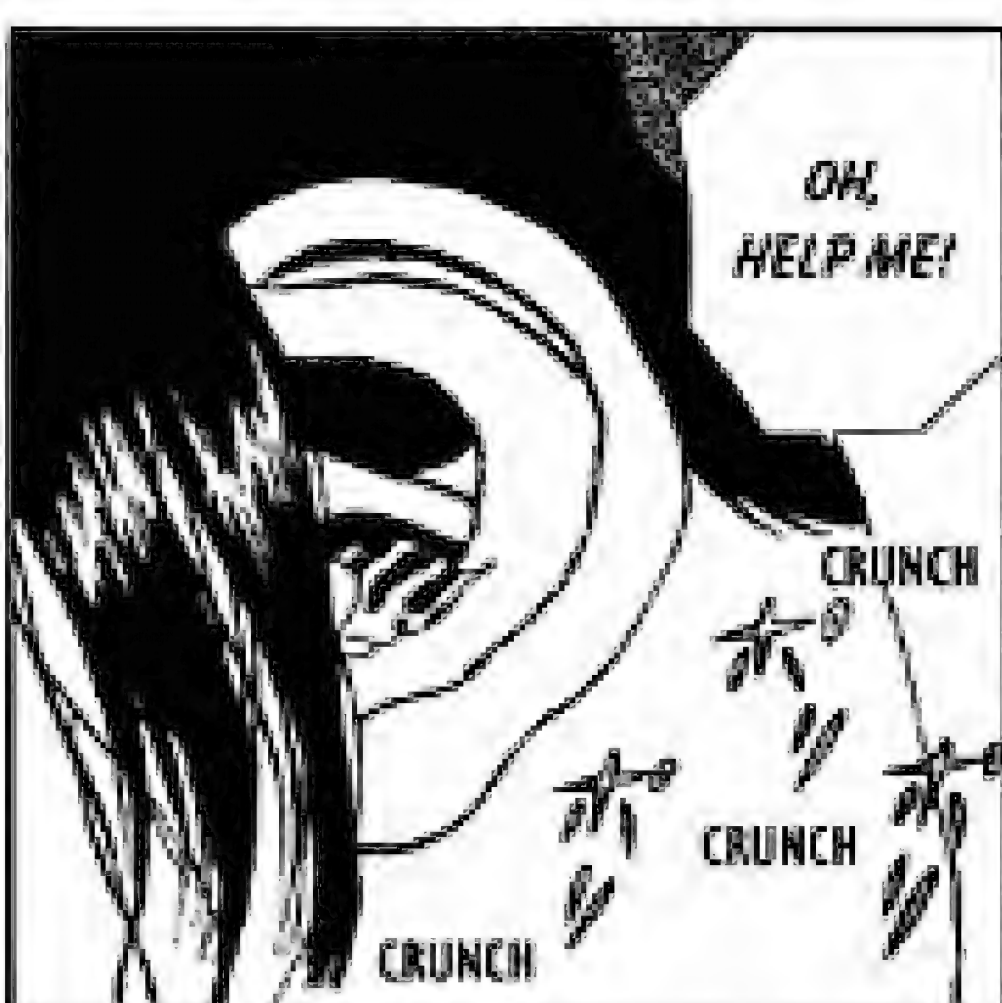
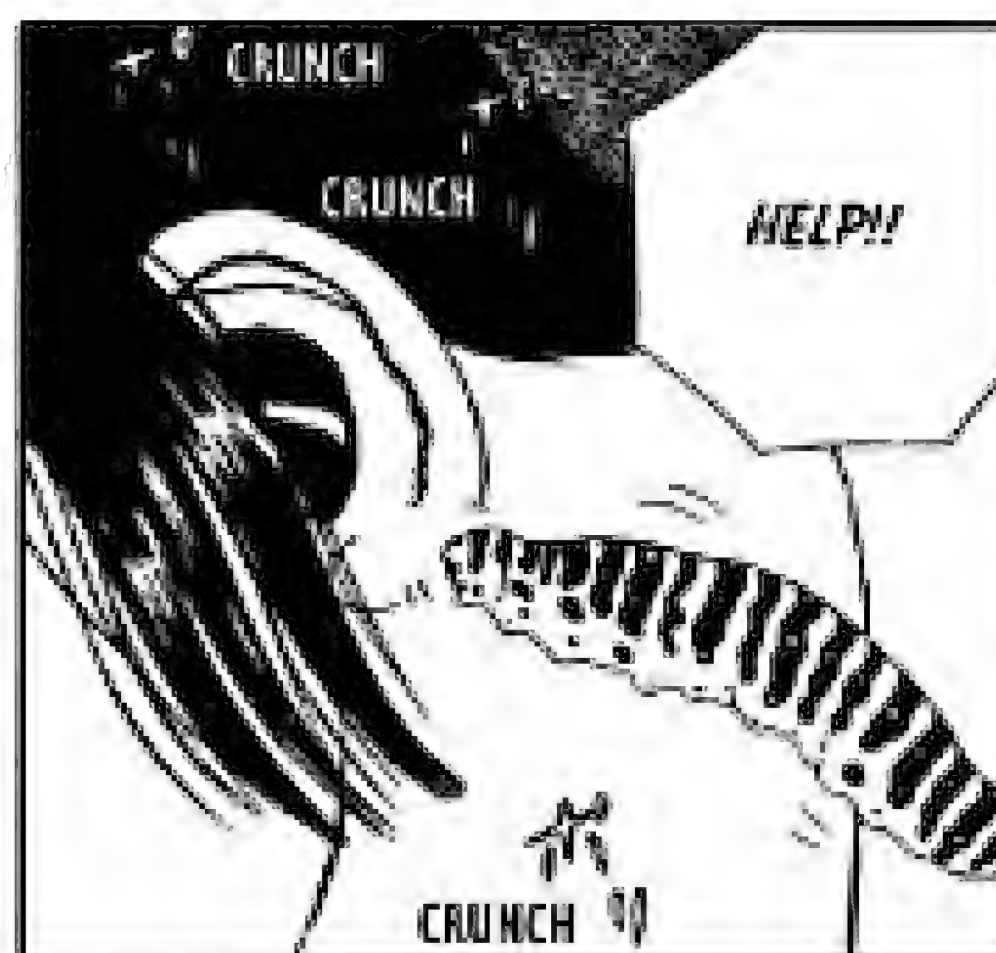
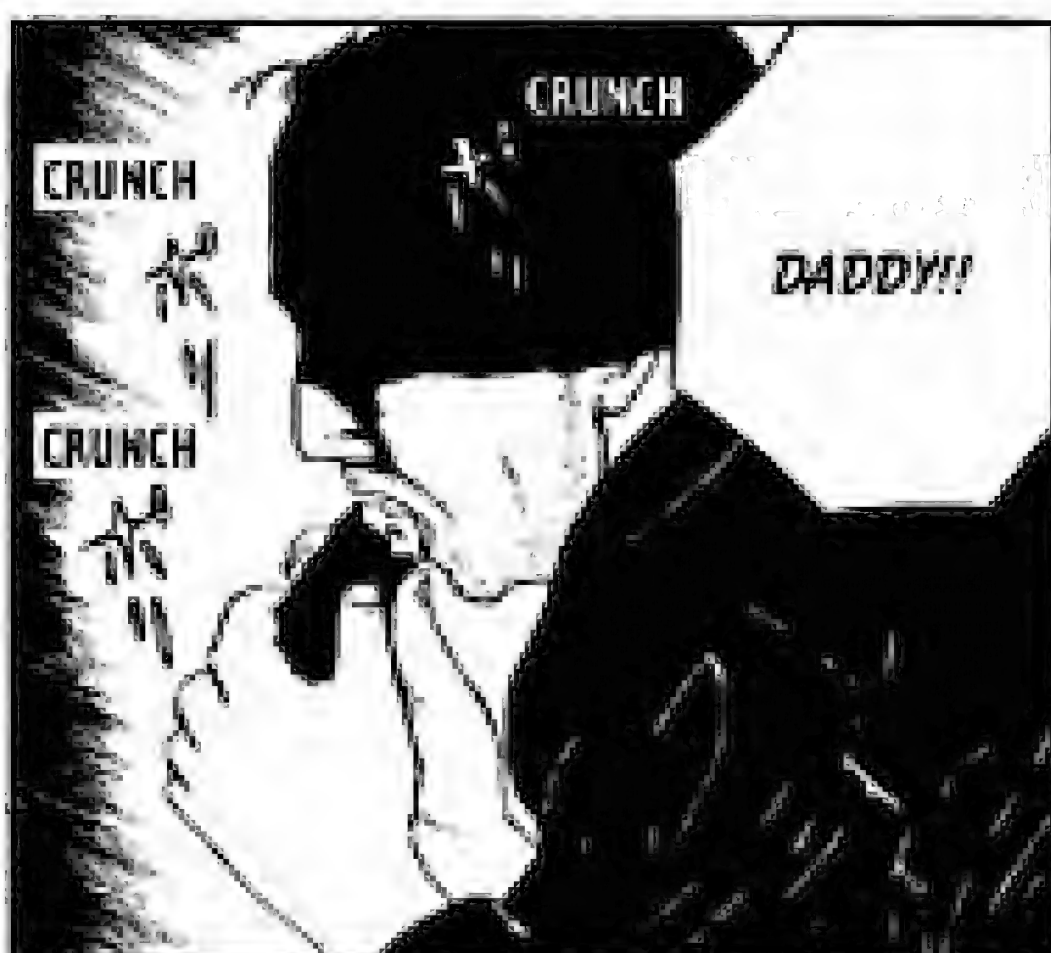






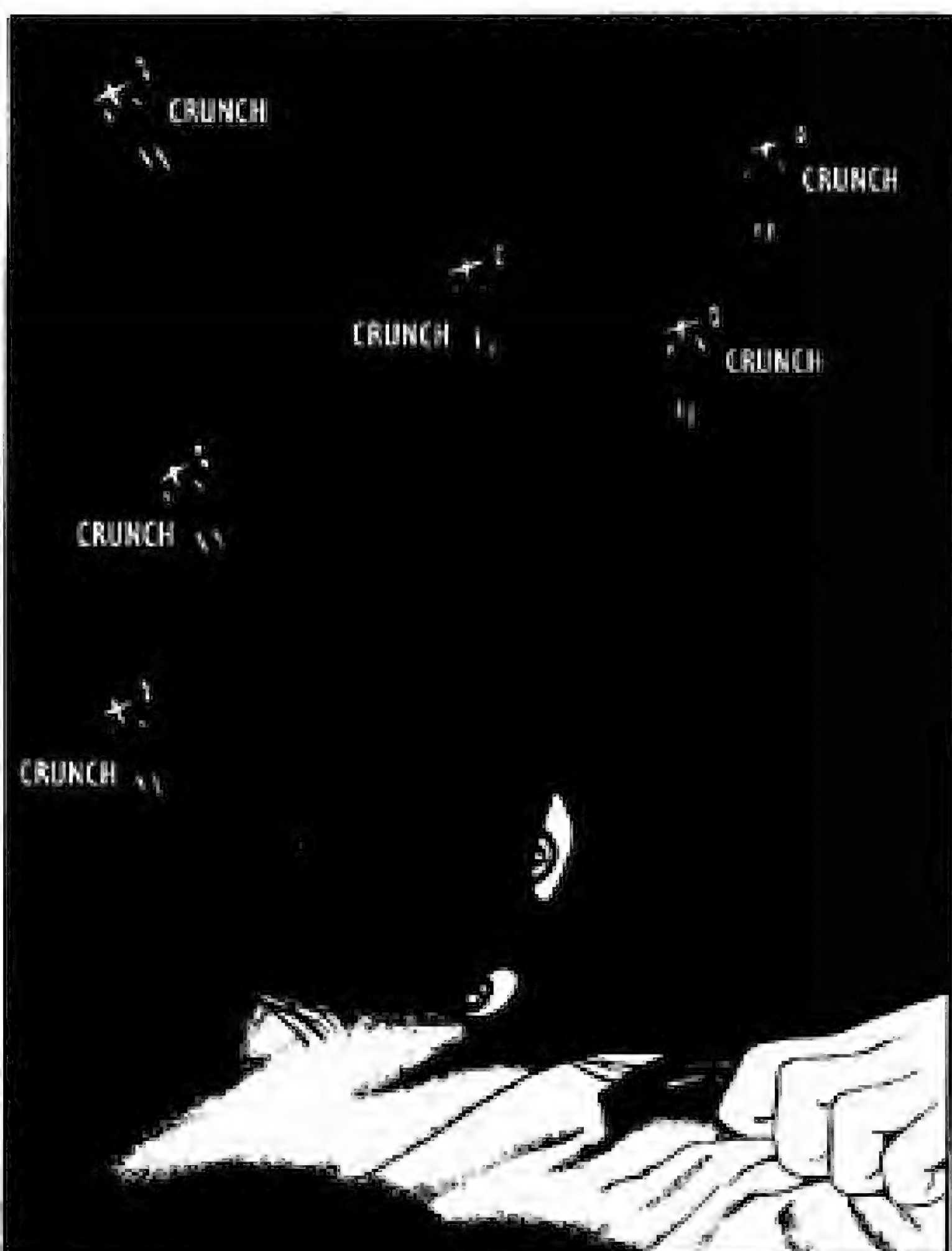


AAGH!!! AAGH!!!
AAGH!!! AAGH!!!









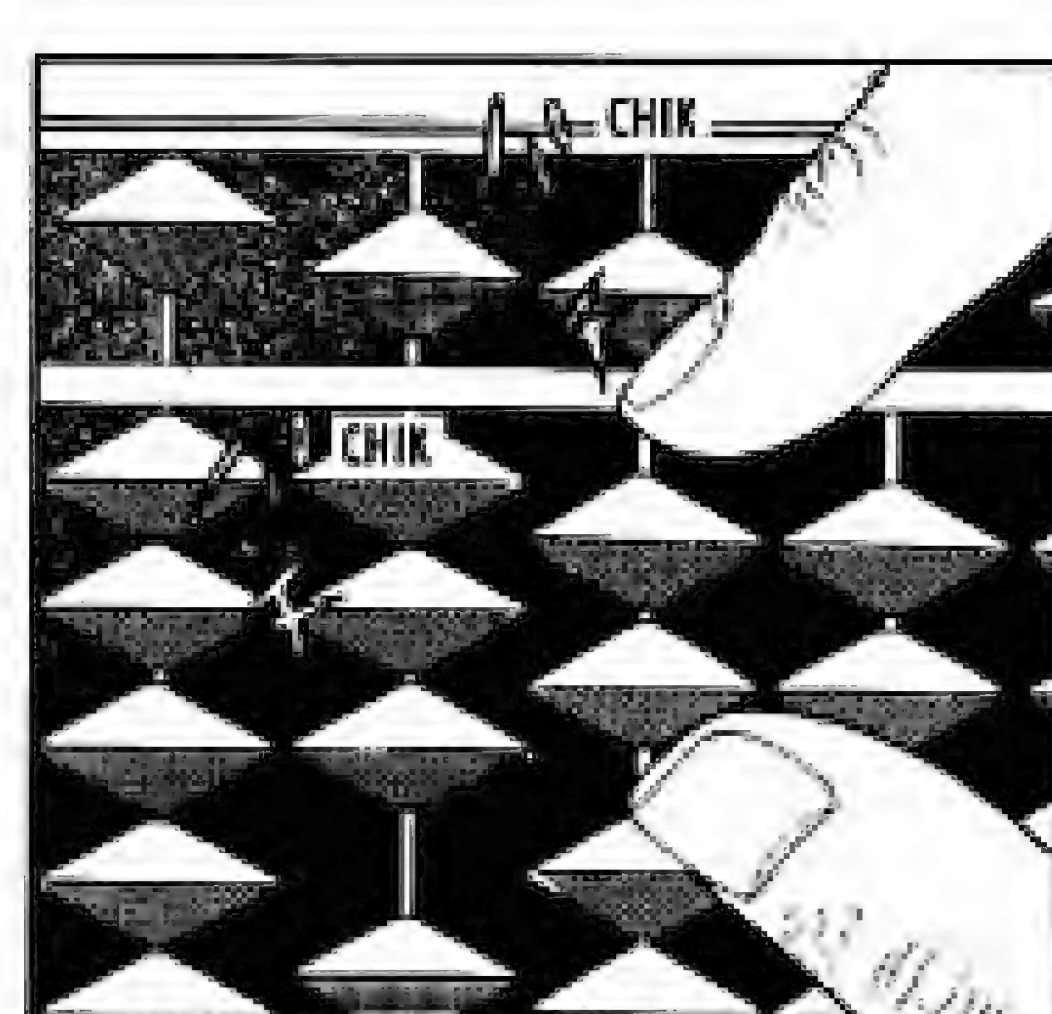


WE'RE GOING
DOWN THE
DRAIN.



DAMNN!

SHIK
SHIK



CHIK

CHIK



YOU CAN'T
JUST DITCH US
LIKE THAT!!

WHAT DO YOU
EXPECT ME TO
DO ABOUT IT—
WE'RE FLAT
BROKE



HOW ARE WE
SUPPOSED TO
GET PAID?

BOSS,
YOU CAN'T
SAY THAT.



HMM... SURELY
YOU COULD GET A
LITTLE MONEY
FOR ME...



A LITTLE
MONEY WOULD
BE SO NICE...



WELL, WHAT
ARE YOU
GOING
TO DO?

WE HAVEN'T
TAKEN IN
A CENT
FOR THREE
MONTHS.



HUH!
WHAT A FAGGOT!



NOBODY COMES
TO SEE THE SHOW
ANYMORE. WE'LL
NEVER GET
ENOUGH MONEY
TO GET OUT
OF HERE.

ARE WE
JUST GONNA
STARVE TO
DEATH?



SHUR



NOW WHAT
ARE WE
GONNA DO?



HE'S A FOOL
TO JOIN
THIS LOUSY
CARNY ACT.



THEY SAY
HE USES
WESTERN
MAGIC.

I HEAR ARASHI'S
FOUND SOME
NEW GUY
FOR THE SHOW.



WE'RE
REALLY
SCREWED!

I GUESS I'LL
JUST HAVE TO
GET SOME WORK
DIGGING
DITCHES.

HEY, MIDORI, WHY DON'T
YOU GO SLEEP SOMEWHERE
ELSE. WE DON'T WANT
TO CATCH YOUR COLD!

IT AIN'T MY FAULT,
MAN.

WELL IT AIN'T MY FAULT
WE GOT NO AUDIENCE.

EVER SINCE
SHE GOT HERE
OUR FREAK SHOW'S
BEEN SHOT TO HELL.

MAYBE MIDORI'S
SOME KIND
OF JINK.

COUGH,
COUGH

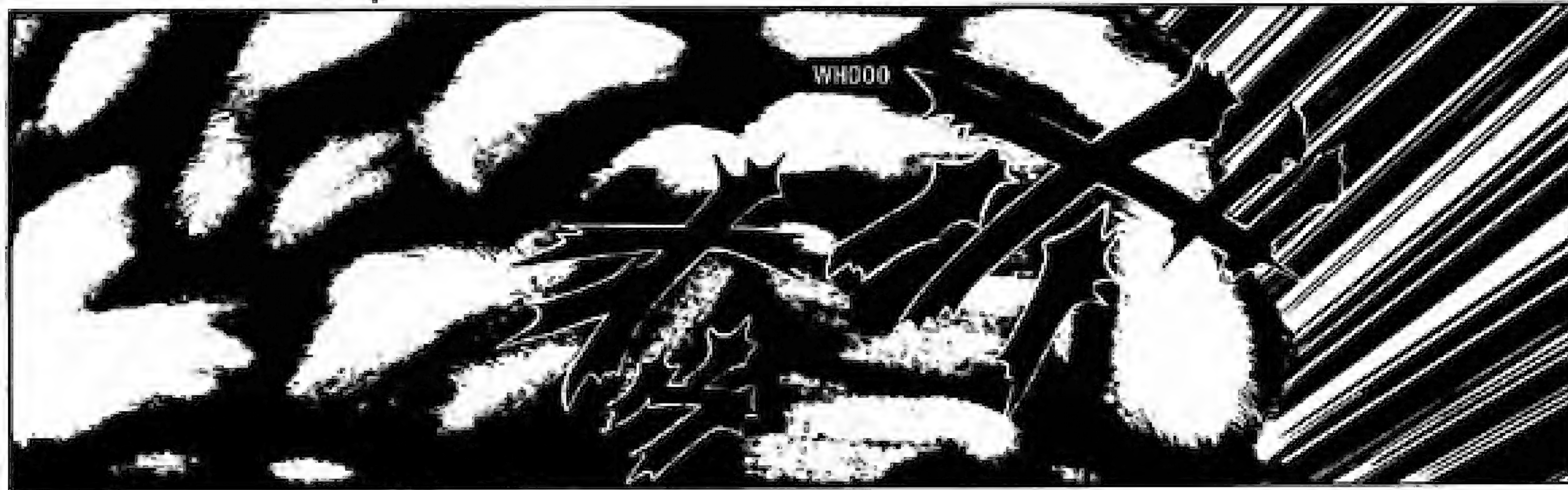
SO WHOSE
FAULT IS IT?

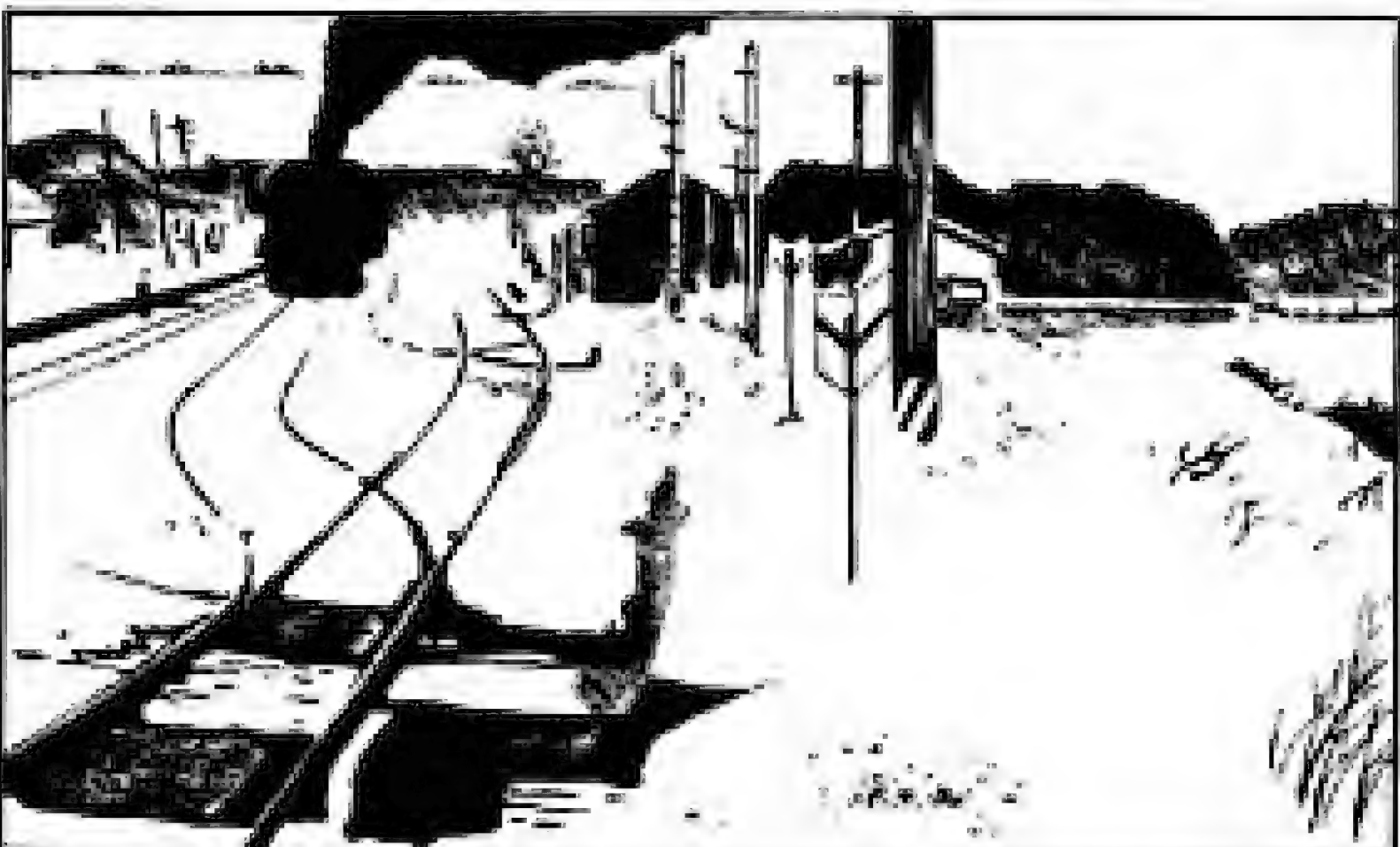
WELL, IT AIN'T
MY FAULT
EITHER!!



COME HERE,
BOY.

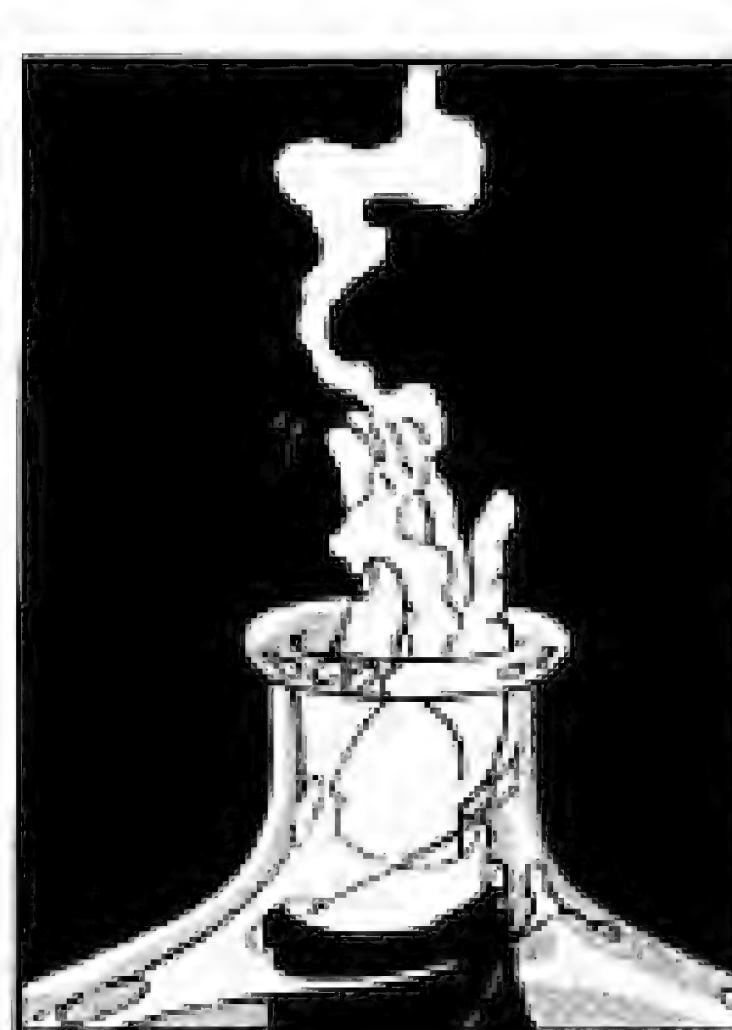
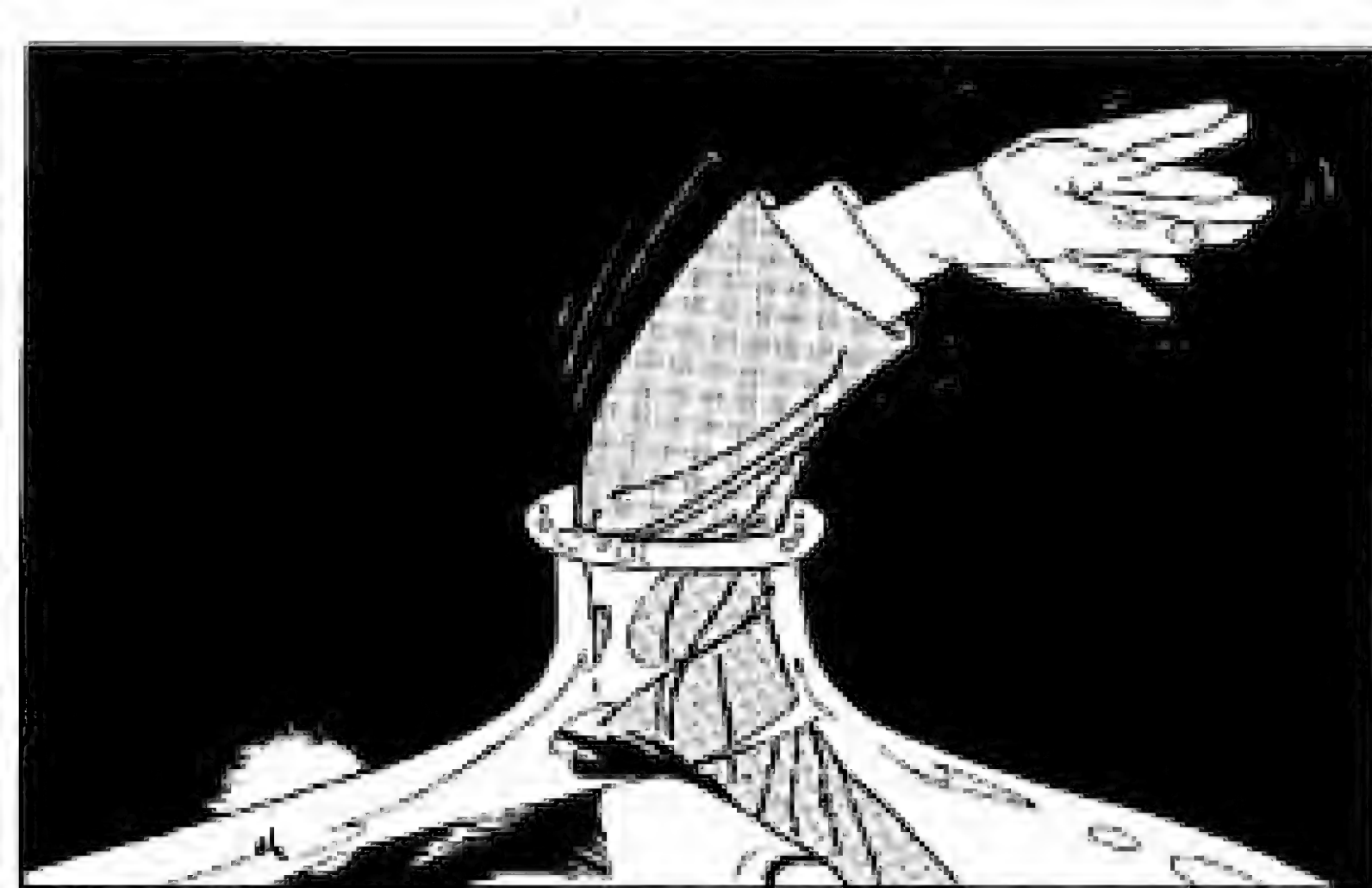
OWWW!
I GOT
SOMETHING
IN MY EYE.





FOREVER WANDERING
UNDER THIS LIGHT OF THE AURORA,
THIS ENDLESS SIBERIA.





LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO
INTRODUCE MYSELF. I'M
MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED
WONDER. DELIGHTED TO MAKE
YOUR ACQUAINTANCE.





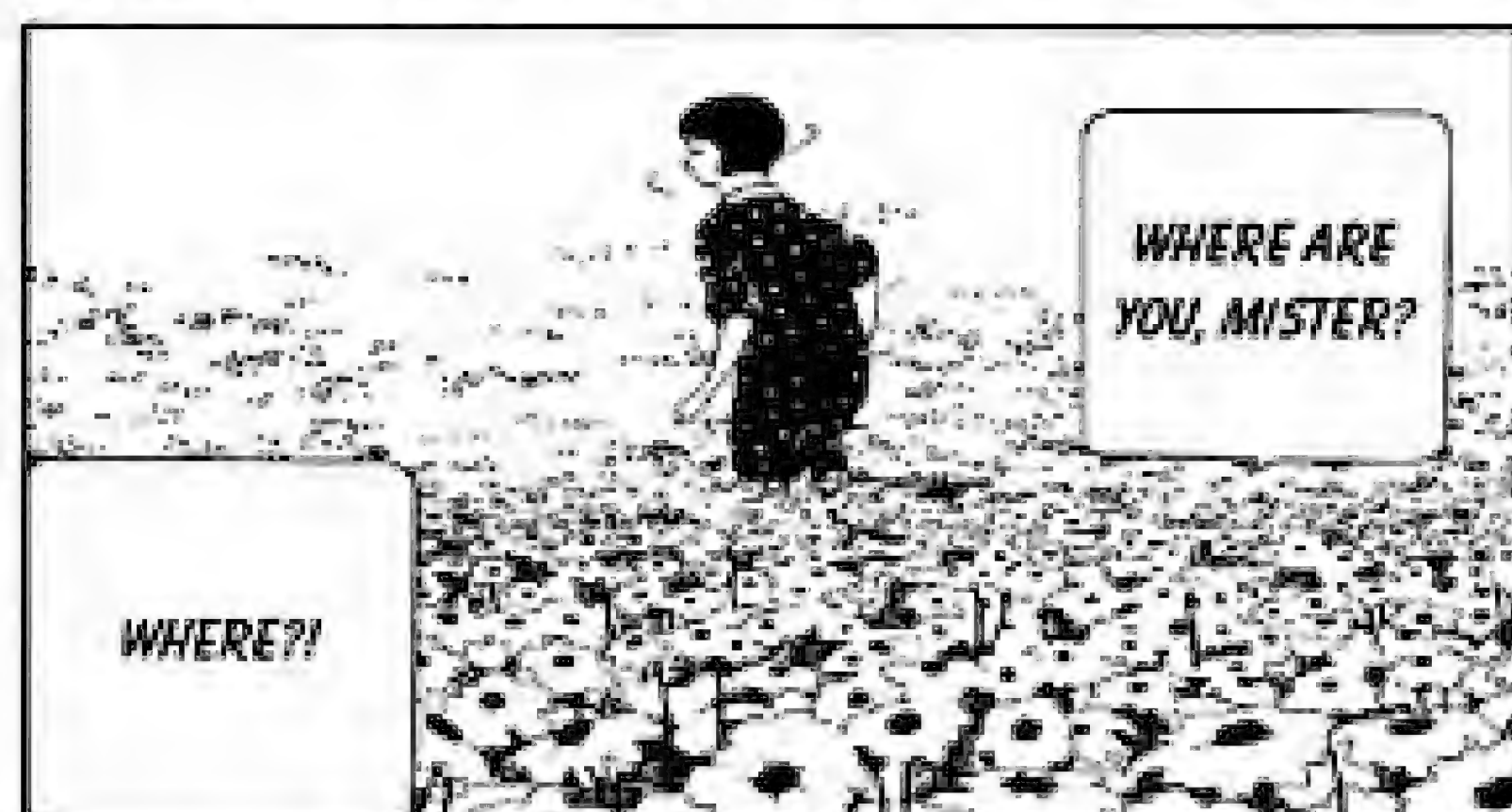


**CHAPTER
FOUR**

**FAME
AND
MEDIOCRITY**









*I COULD MARRY YOU . . .
BUT I'M NOT A VIRGIN ANYMORE*



THE INCREDIBLE
MIDGET IN A BOTTLE—

魔術 瓶の中の一寸法師

世界一!!
ワンダー正光氏

THE ONE AND ONLY HASAHITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER!!



RIGHT THIS WAY!
PAY AS YOU GO!
IT'S A FEAST
FOR THE EYE AND THE MIND!

OUT OF
MY WAY,
YOU...

I WANNA SIT
UP FRONT!

BOOH

YOU JERK—
STOP PUSHING!



STEP RIGHT UP!
YOU CAN PAY AS
YOU GO! STEP RIGHT
UP AND AVOID
THE RUSH!

世界一!!
ワンダー正光氏

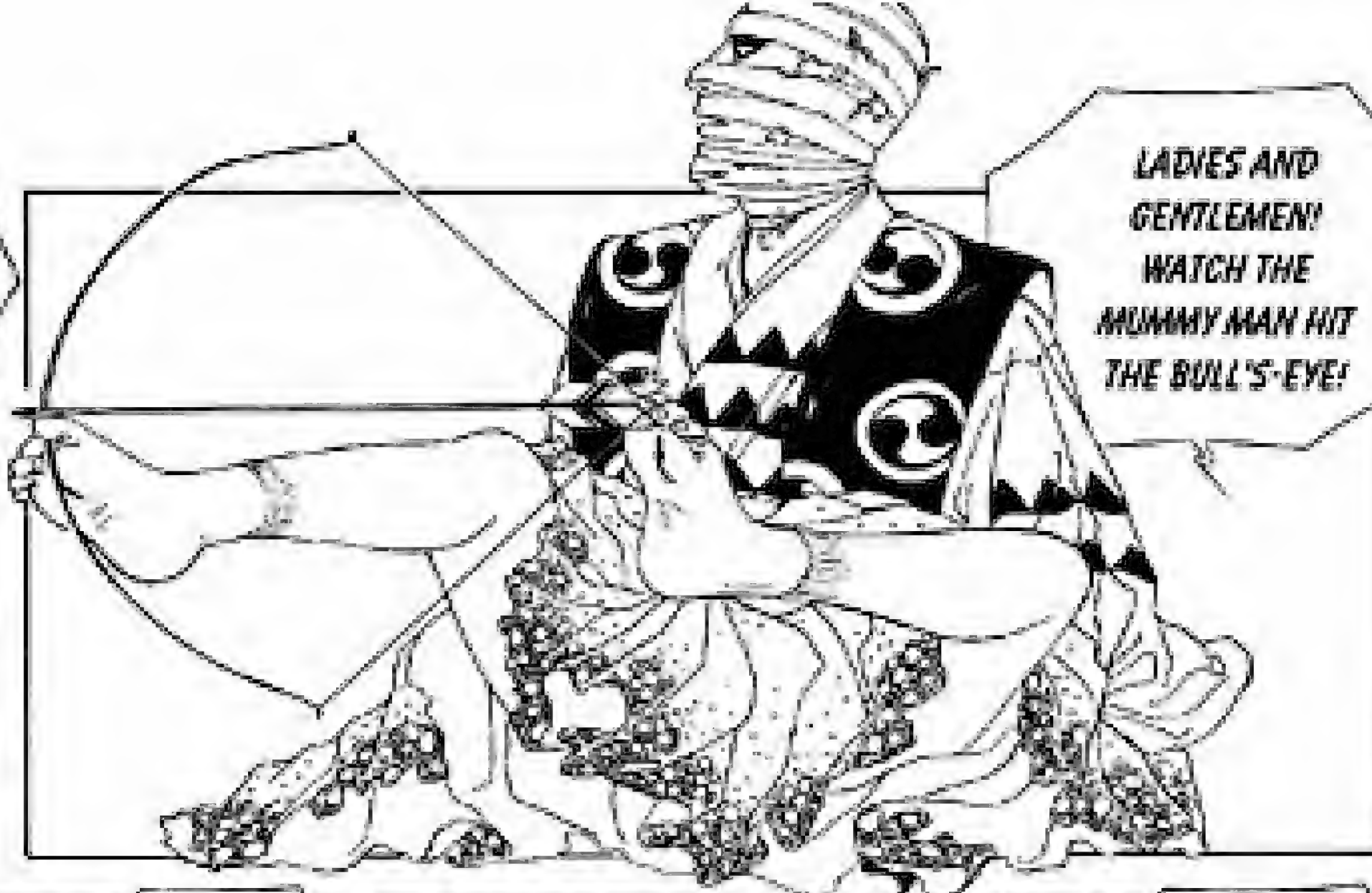
BOOH

BOOH

HEY!
DON'T PUSH ME!



GET OFF
THE STAGE,
YOU BOZO!



LADIES AND
GENTLEMEN!
WATCH THE
MUMMY MAN HIT
THE BULL'S-EYE!



UH,
EXCUSE ME,
SIR—ARE YOU
READY TO
GO ON?

BRING OUT
MASAMITSU!



WE WANT
MASAMITSU!



MIDORI, SWEETIE,
ARE YOU
ALMOST READY?



IN A
MOMENT.



UMMM—SIR?



YEP!



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!

THANK YOU,
THANK YOU.

WE'RE FINALLY
GONNA SEE
MASAMITSU!

CLAP

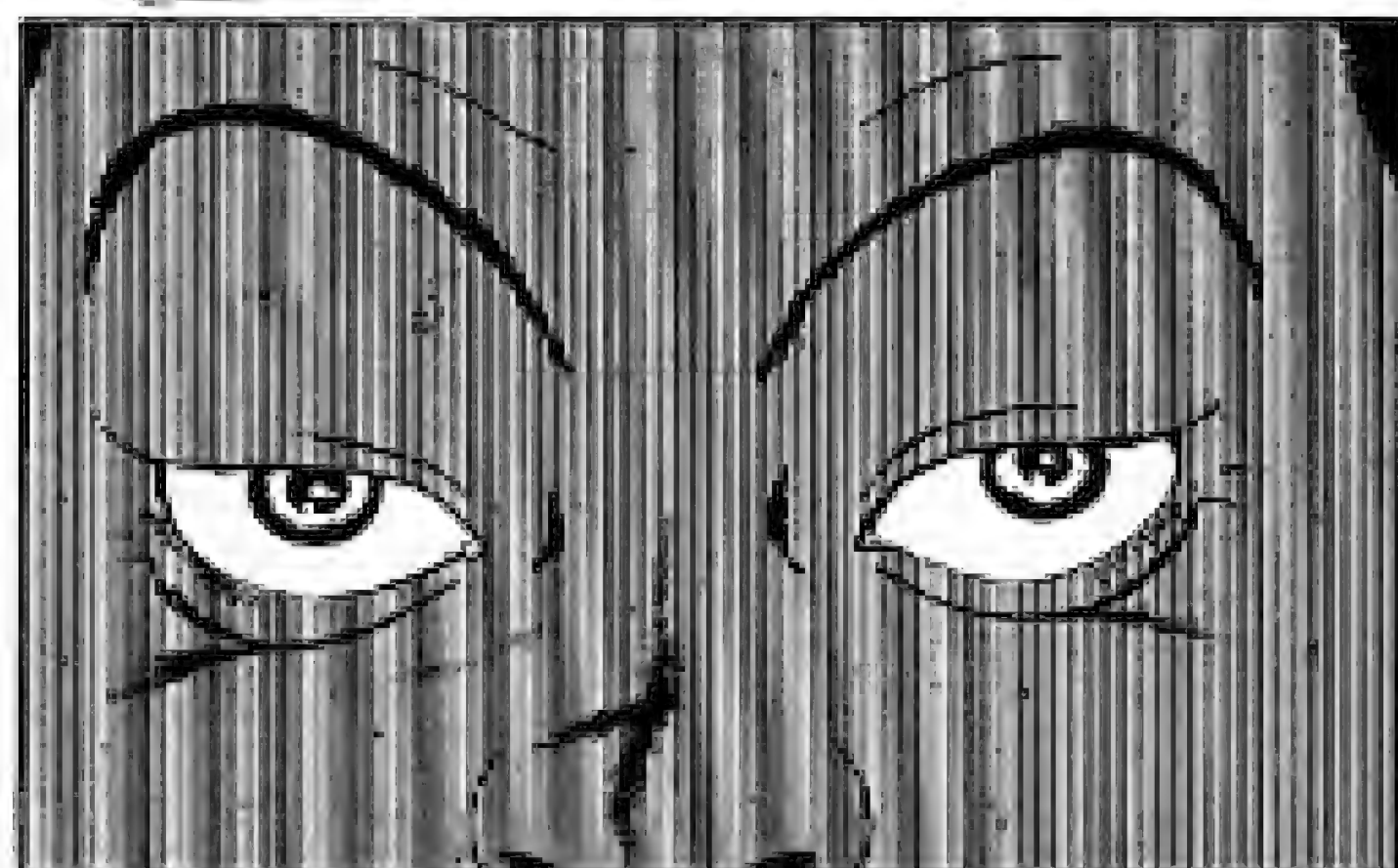
CLAP

CLAP

OH BOY!



MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER



HOORAY!



MAY I
INTRODUCE
MY LOVELY
ASSISTANT,
MIDORI.

HOORAY!



knees. As the crowd roars, Ittoku protests that it is too difficult to get into the bottle. But the canny barker standing alongside him objects, "You know you always like getting into the vase—what's this sudden reluctance?" The handkerchief clasped in his right hand, Ittoku begins to sink down into the vase. His shoulders disappear, and after lingering a moment at the edge of the vase, the handkerchief too disappears into the vessel. Suddenly the barker claps his hands and calls out to Ittoku. A voice resounds from inside the vase. As the voice continues to speak from within the vase, in the ceiling directly above a hole opens up from which Ittoku slowly descends, still holding the

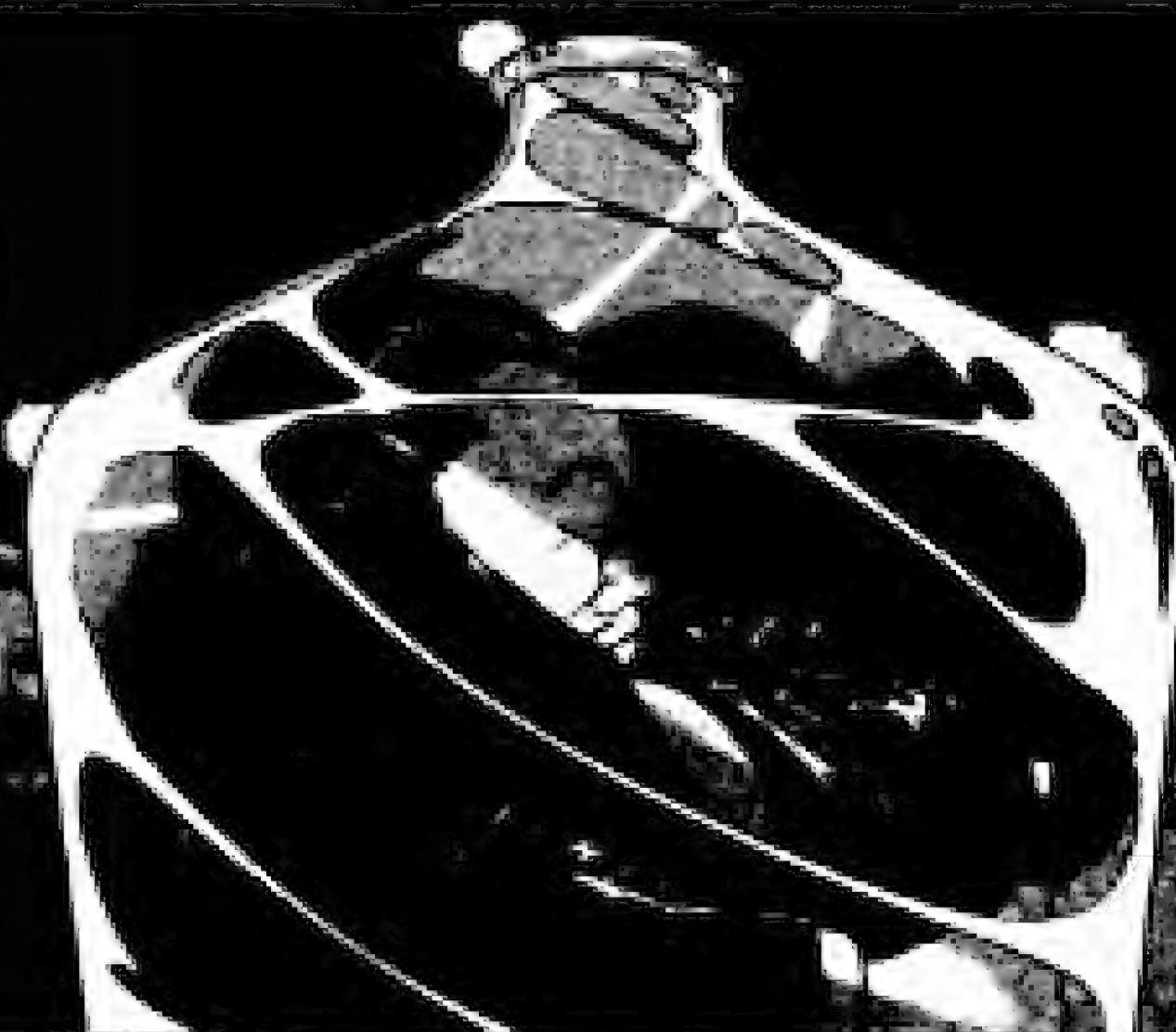


The curtain rises. At center stage stands a vase three feet in height whose mouth measures at about a foot and a half in diameter. Ittoku appears on stage and tilts the vase down to show the audience it is empty. Then he places the vase atop a large table beneath which there is nothing—no devices of any kind. Several feet behind the table hangs a white curtain from above. Six candles encircling the table are lit, and they illuminate the stage very brightly. Dressed in a suit and holding a red handkerchief in his hand, Ittoku steps into the vase and stands up straight. The vase comes up only to his



resounds again. And at this very instant a man clothed in a beautiful golden kimono appears from stage left and steps up in front of the vase. It is none other than Ittoku himself. Breathless, the audience cannot believe their eyes.

A History of Shows
Isuzu Furukawa



handkerchief in his hand. He stands again in the vase and declares, "You have seen me escape by ascension; this time I shall escape by descending." Immediately he sinks into the vase as before, but this time the handkerchief remains half in and half outside the vase. Again the barker claps and calls out to Ittoku. And from within the vase a voice

UH-HUH.

MR.
MASAMITSU,
SIR, THAT WAS
STUPENDOUS!

MR.
MASAMITSU,
SIR...

PLEASE, YOU
NEEDN'T TROUBLE
YOURSELF OVER ME.
JUST BRING SOME
WARM MILK FOR
DEAR MIDORI.

HEY YOU BUMS,
WHY DON'T YOU MAKE
YOURSELVES USEFUL AND
GET MR. MASAMITSU
SOME TEA.

OH!

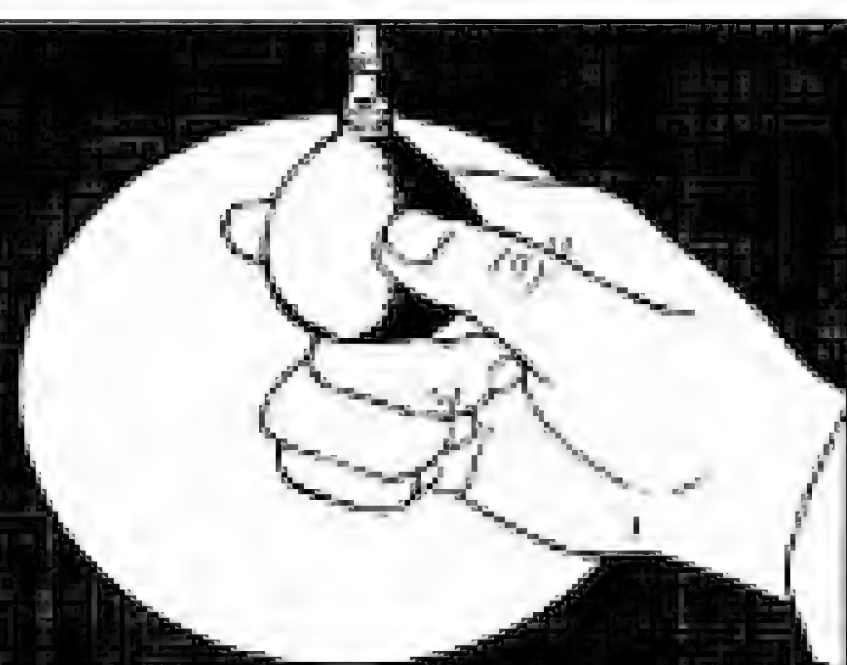
IT IS ONLY BECAUSE OF YOU
THAT MY PERFORMANCE
WENT SO WELL TODAY.
I THANK YOU FROM THE
BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

HHMM

HUH. HE CALLS
MIDORI HIS
ASSISTANT BUT ALL
SHE DOES IS
FUCKING STAND
THERE

READY?

NOW, SMILE!



Izumi Photo Studio



CLICK



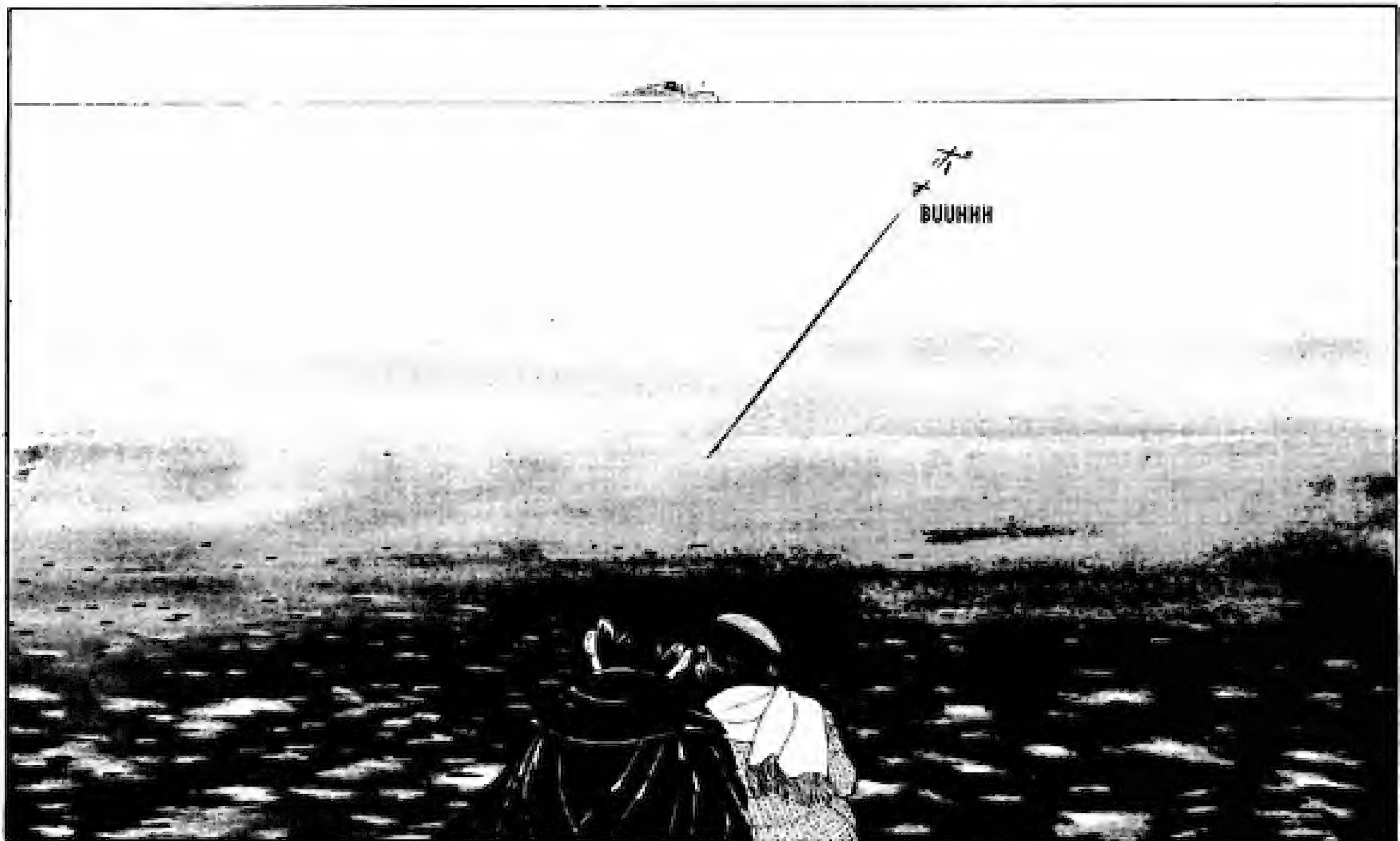
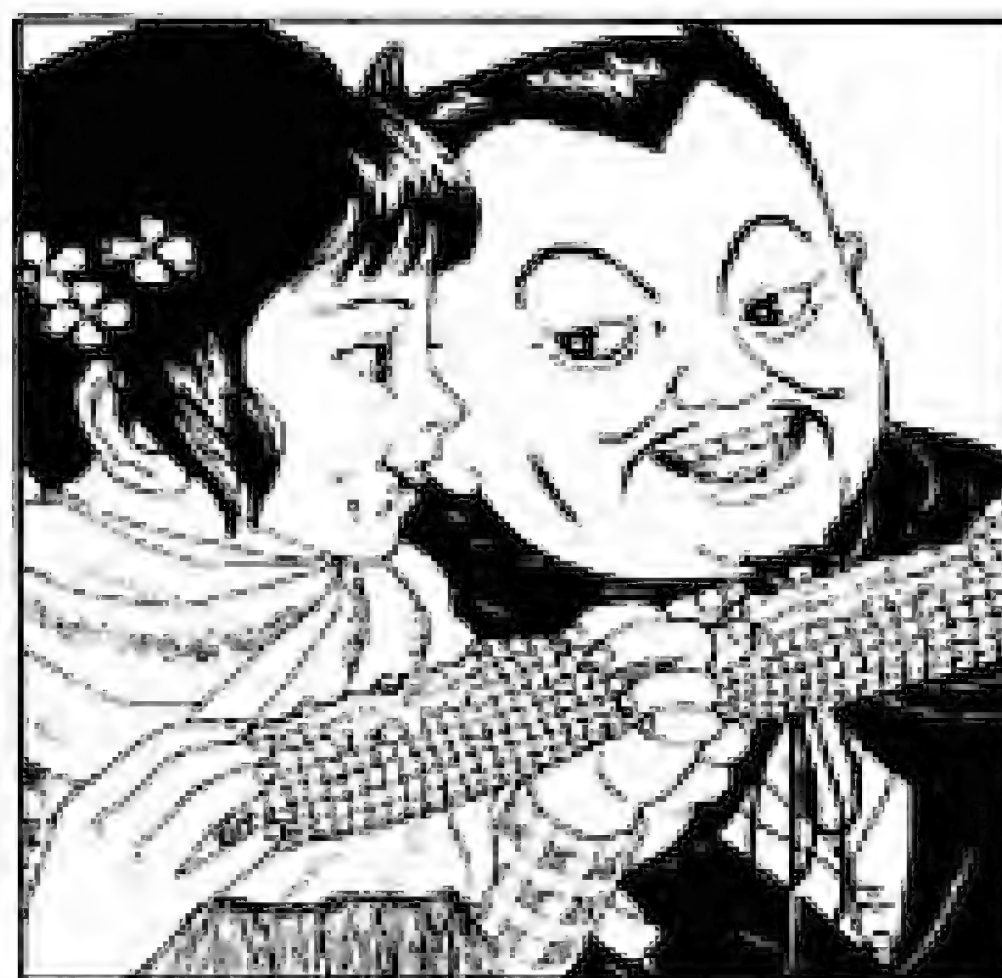
ME TOO.

OH, I HOPE
OUR PHOTO
TURNS OUT
NICE.



WON'T IT BE
WONDERFUL
WHEN THE
SNOW'S
ALL GONE?

IT SURE WILL,
SWEETIE.



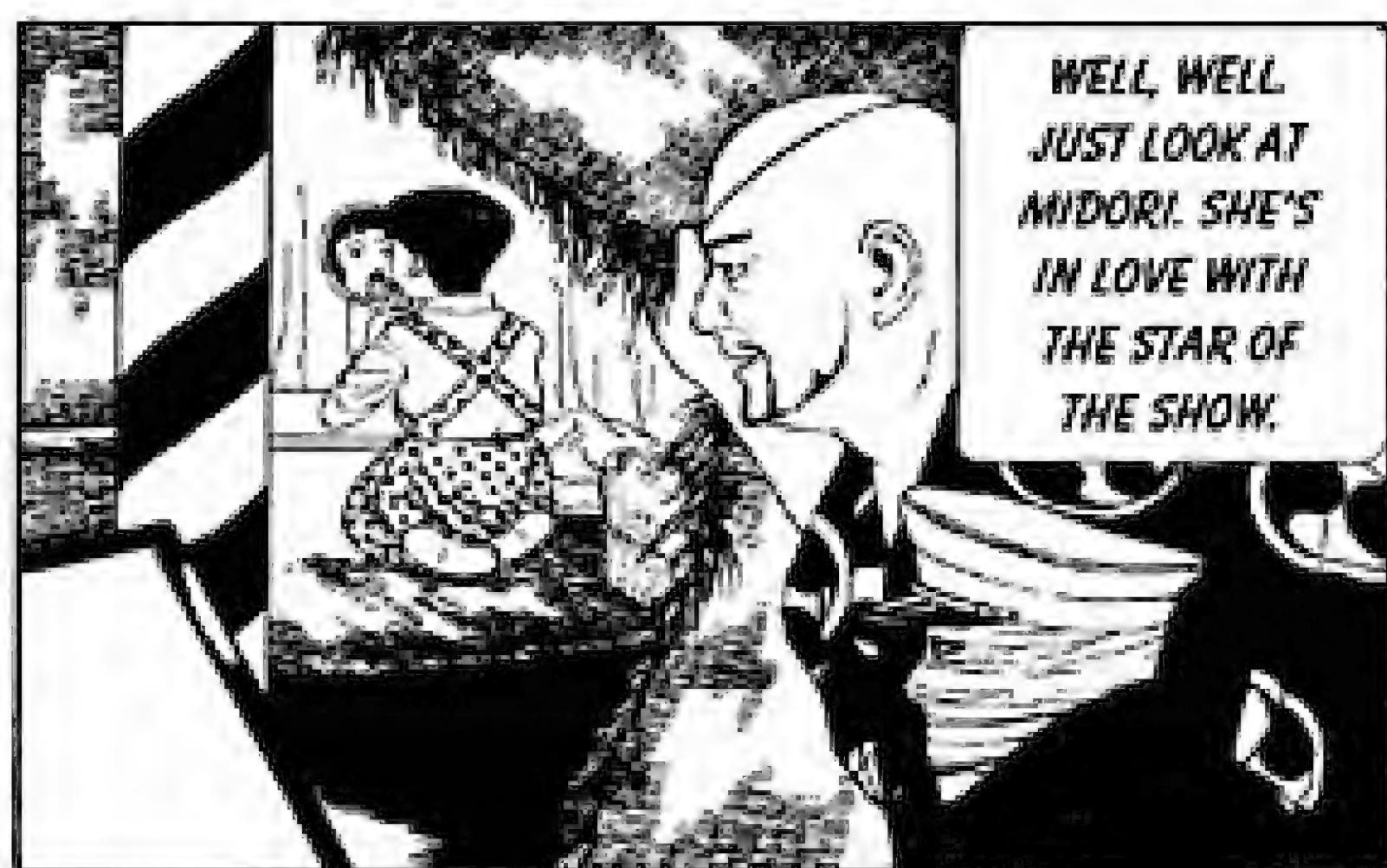


LET ME TELL YOU...

"THE DARKNESS HOLDS MANY MYSTERIES
THE DAYLIGHT MAY BRING UNTOLD DANGER
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT DARK SPIRITS SPREAD PLAGUES
AND MID-DAY BRINGS RELENTLESS DISEASE
YET THOU MUST NOT BE AFRAID..."

YES, I DO.

THAT IS IT. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?





YOU
LITTLE
FOOL!

GODDAMMIT.



GET A
LOAD
OF HER!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO
TELL ME. I WAS JUST
ABOUT TO GO DO THE
LAUNDRY ANYWAY.



DAMN YOU,
YOU UGLY MUMMY!

STOP IT!
I JUST GOT MY
MAKEUP
PUT ON!



LEAVE ME ALONE,
YOU JERK!

NOW...

YOU'RE
JUST ASKING
FOR IT.



I'M GONNA TELL
MY OLD MAN!

YOU WOULDN'T EVEN
SURVIVE WITHOUT
MASAMITSU
AND ME!

WELL, DID YOU
HEAR THAT?
MY OLD MAN,
SHE SAID. HAH!





GYAAAA!

あーあーあー



GRAB

ガクン



HERE YOU GO!



NO! STOP IT!!

HEY,
YOU CAN FLY!



HA HA
HA HA!



WONK

UUUUHH



ROUND AND
ROUND AND
ROUND SHE
GOES!



DROP DEAD,
YOU, YOU...

FASTER!
FASTER!





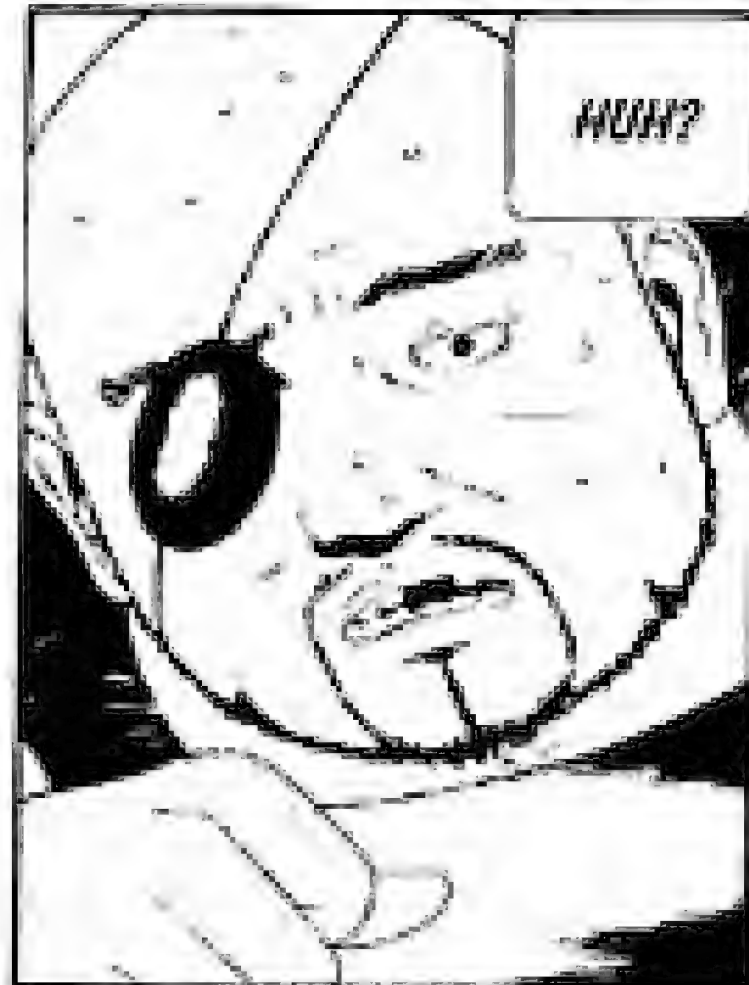
MIDORI'S
TURNED INTO
A GIANT!

WHA—
WHAT HAPPENED?

MIDORI'S
TURNED INTO
A GIANT!

MIDORI'S
TURNED INTO
A GIANT!

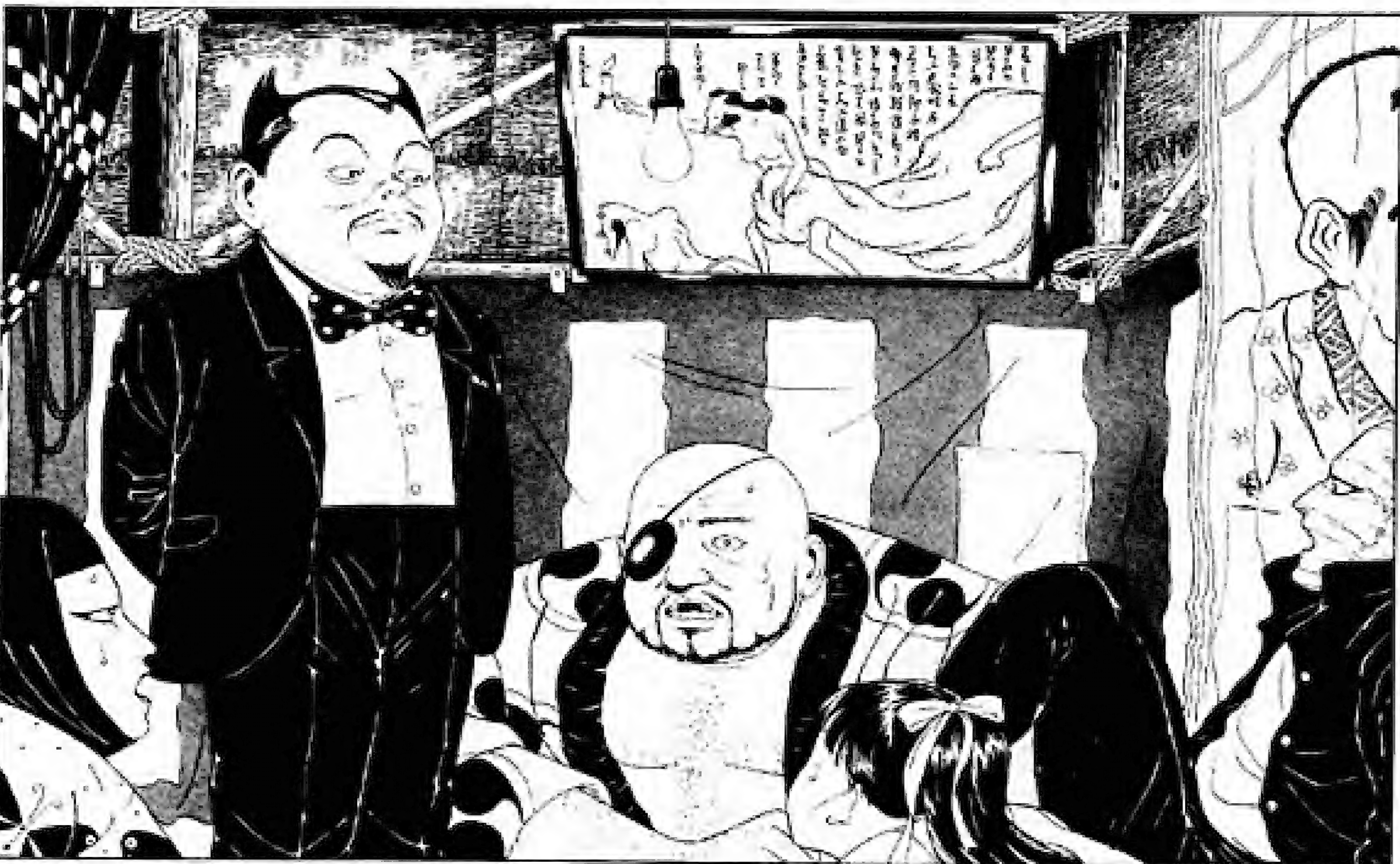




HUH?



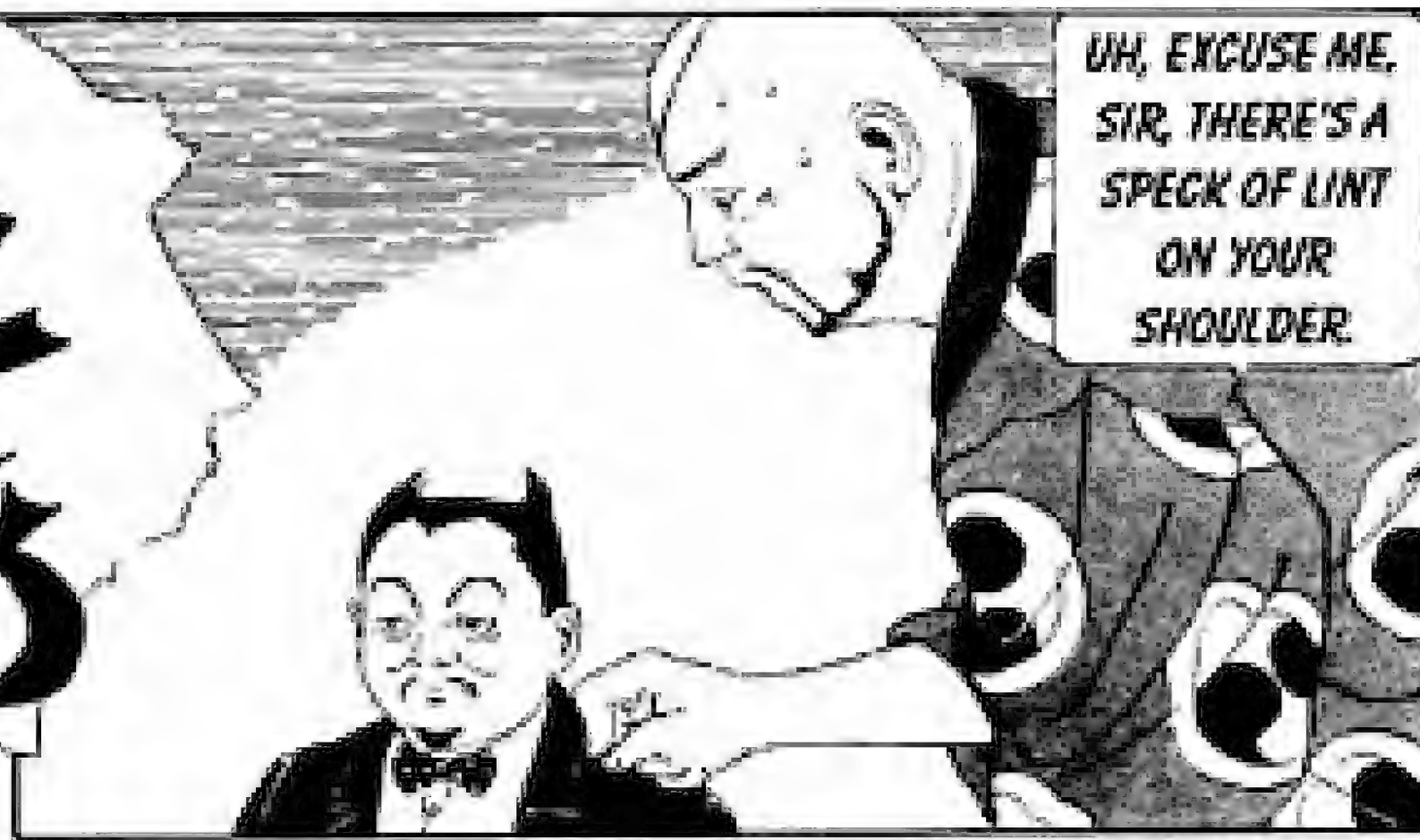
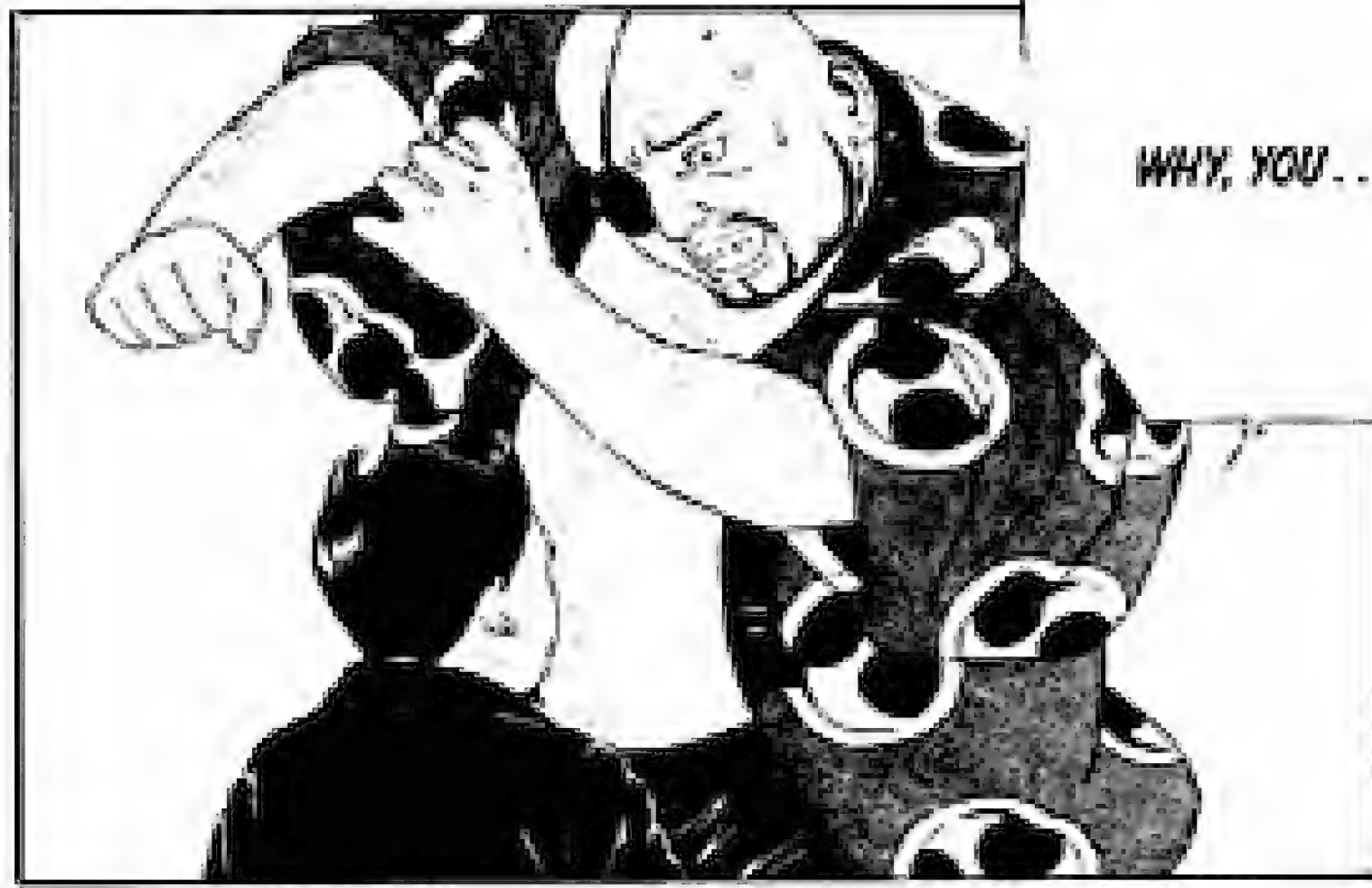
PARDON ME?
DID I HEAR
SOMEONE SAY
SOMETHING
ABOUT MIDORI?



MIDORI,
SWEETIE,
ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?



SHE'S
RIGHT OVER
THERE.
LOOK.





YOU TWO...
OH, SKIP IT.

YOU...



YOU WILL
COOK
THE MEALS.

YOU FIX
THE TENT.

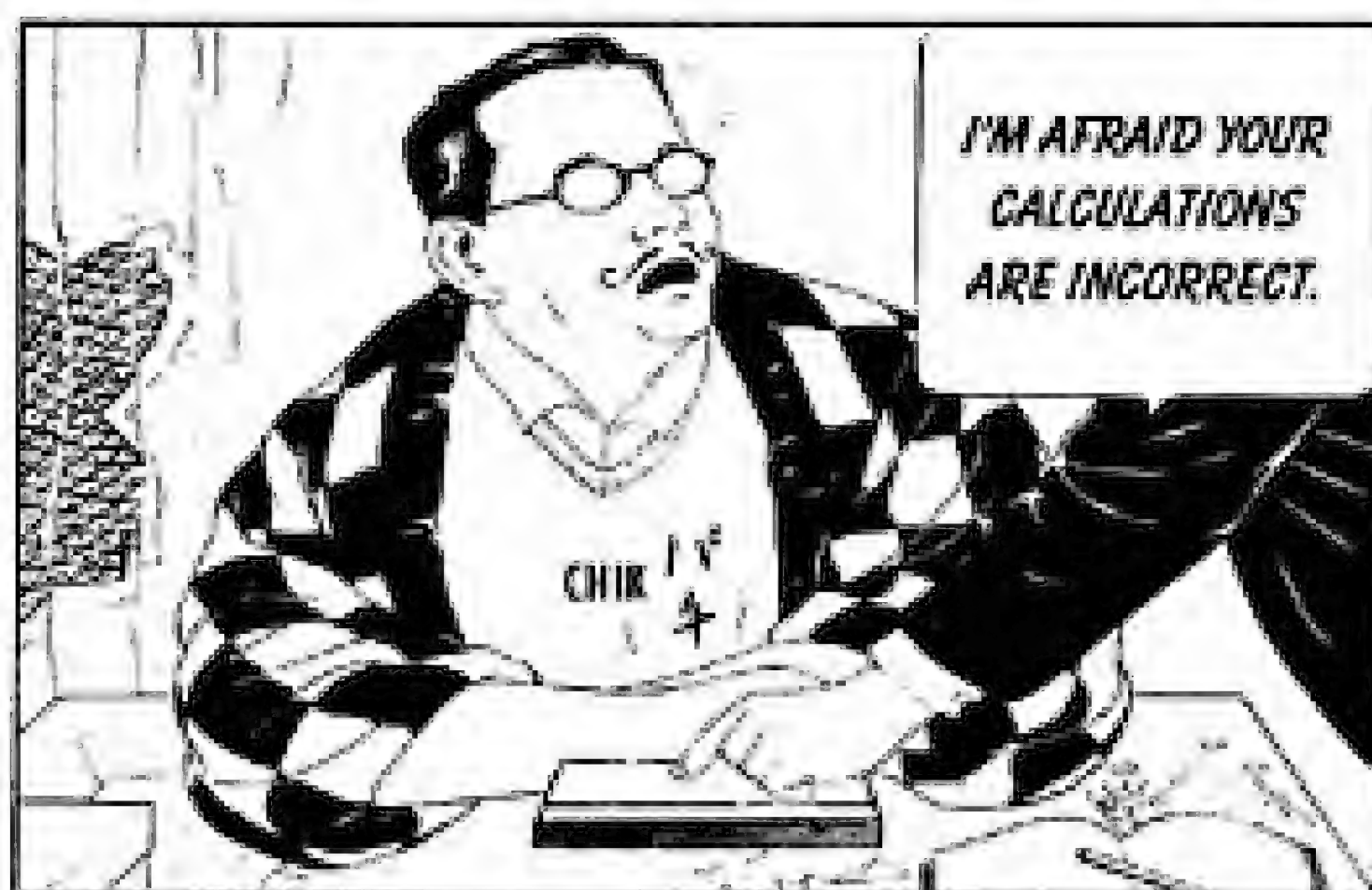
YOU DO
THE
WASHING.

YOU
CLEAN UP
BACKSTAGE.



I'LL GIVE YOU
SOME MONEY
SO YOU CAN
GO OUT AND
HAVE SOME FUN.

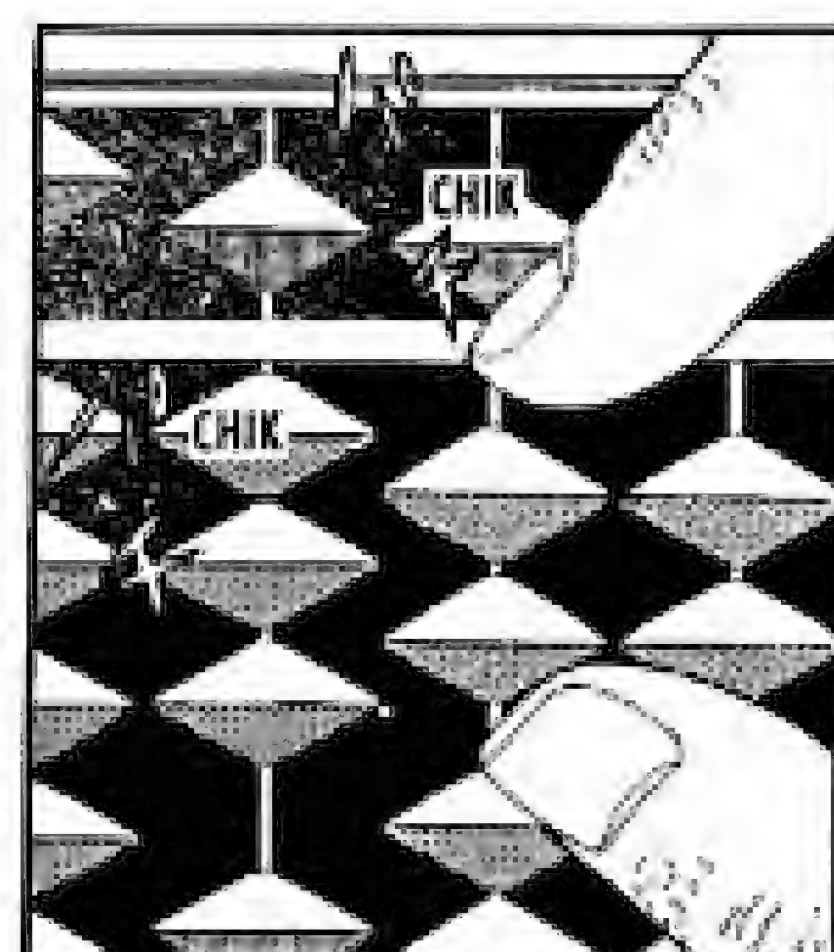
MIDORI,
YOU NEEDN'T
DO ANYTHING.



I'M AFRAID YOUR
CALCULATIONS
ARE INCORRECT.



HEH, HEH, HEH.
IT'S EASY
MONEY.



CHIK

CHIK



I MUST INSIST.
IF YOU PAY THEM
SO POORLY
THEY WILL
ALL LEAVE YOU.

MY TAKE
IS SMALL
ENOUGH AS IT IS!

NO!
I PAY THEM
PLENTY.



COME NOW.
THIS WOULD
SUFFICE. YOU'VE
PROFITED ENOUGH.

BUT SIR,
THAT AMOUNT
WON'T EVEN
COVER THE
OVERHEAD...

CHIK

CHIK



LEAVE
EVERYTHING
TO ME.



JUST
LEAVE IT
TO ME.



DON'T WORRY
ABOUT THE
MONEY. I'LL—



TEE HEE HEE...

TEE HEE HEE
HEE HEE...



I PROMISE
I'LL NEVER
BULLY YOU
AGAIN.

SORRY ABOUT
WHAT
HAPPENED.



TEE
HEE
HEE...



MIDORI...



LET'S BE
FRIENDS
AGAIN.



IT'S JUST
THAT
LATELY
YOU'VE ...

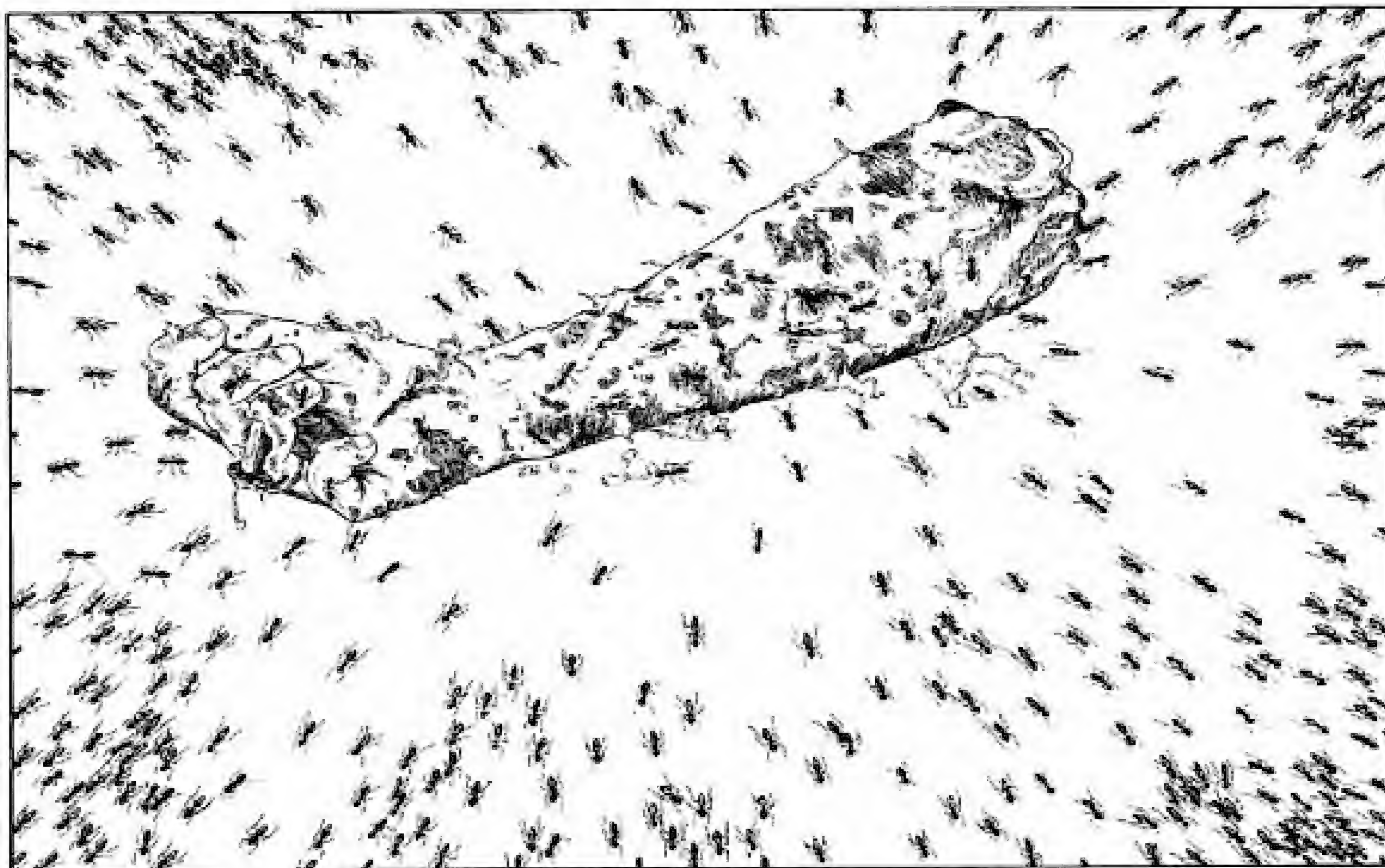
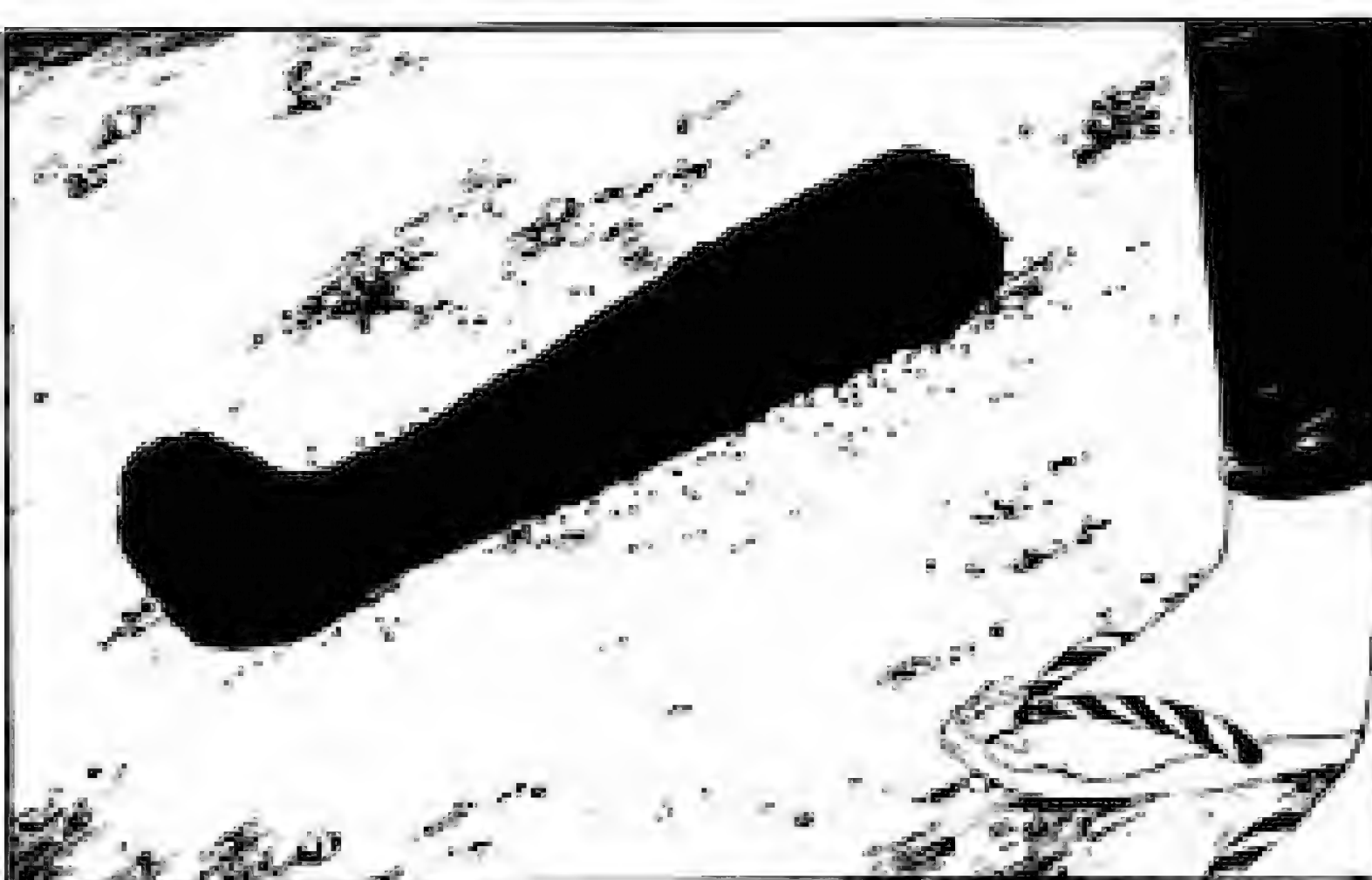
YOU KNOW...



I REALLY LIKE YOU.



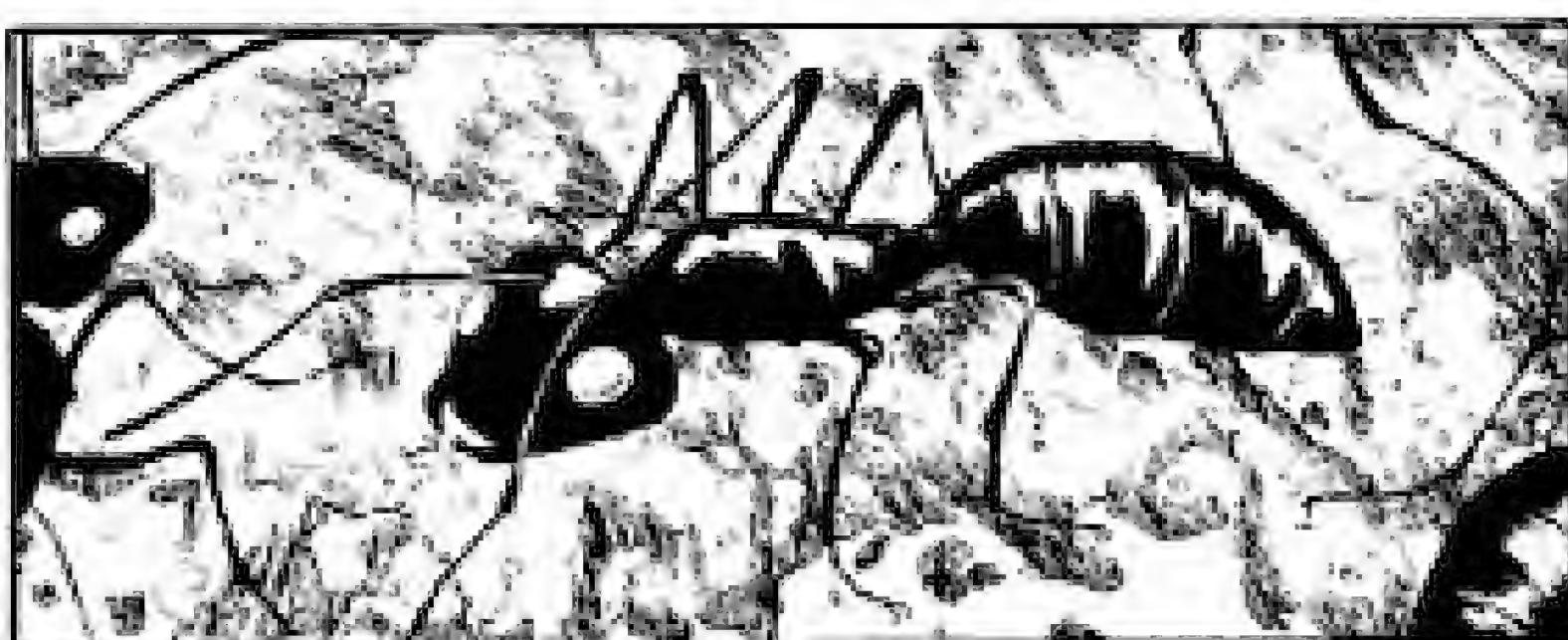
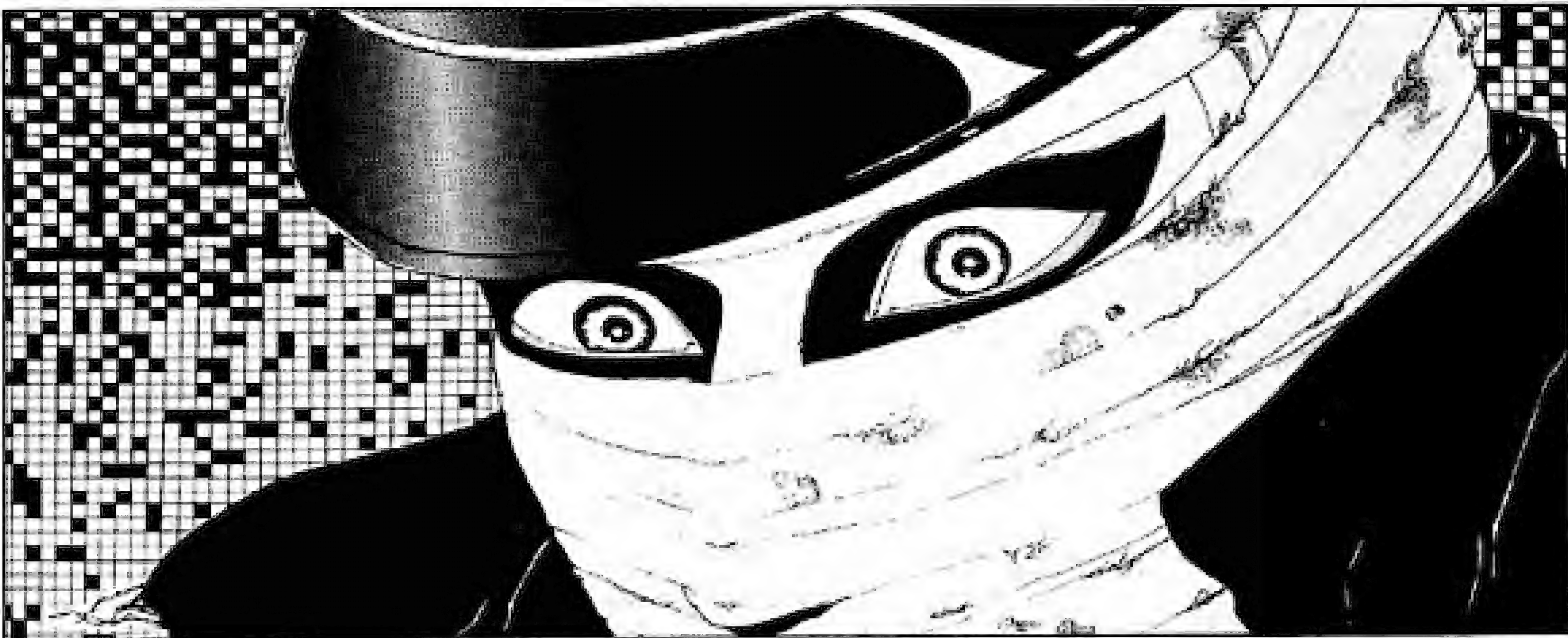
BELIEVE ME.
I DO.



**CHAPTER
FIVE**

**THE
WAGES OF
SIN**









WHO...
WHO
ARE YOU?



I AM YOU.



TAKE
MY HAND.



NO. I AM YOU.



MA...
MASAMITSU!!



OH NO,
I'M NOT
FALLING FOR
THAT TRICK

YOU
BASTARD!



フッ FSSH

MA...

HAVING
SOME TROUBLE?



YOU'RE GOING TO
SINK IF YOU
DON'T DO
SOMETHING
QUICK.

ズッ FSSH
ズッ SSH
ズッ SSH

URGH...
UMPH...



ALL RIGHT,
THEN YOU CAN
GET OUT OF
THAT HOLE
BY YOURSELF.



YOU DON'T
HAVE HANDS,
DO YOU?

OH, I'M SORRY.



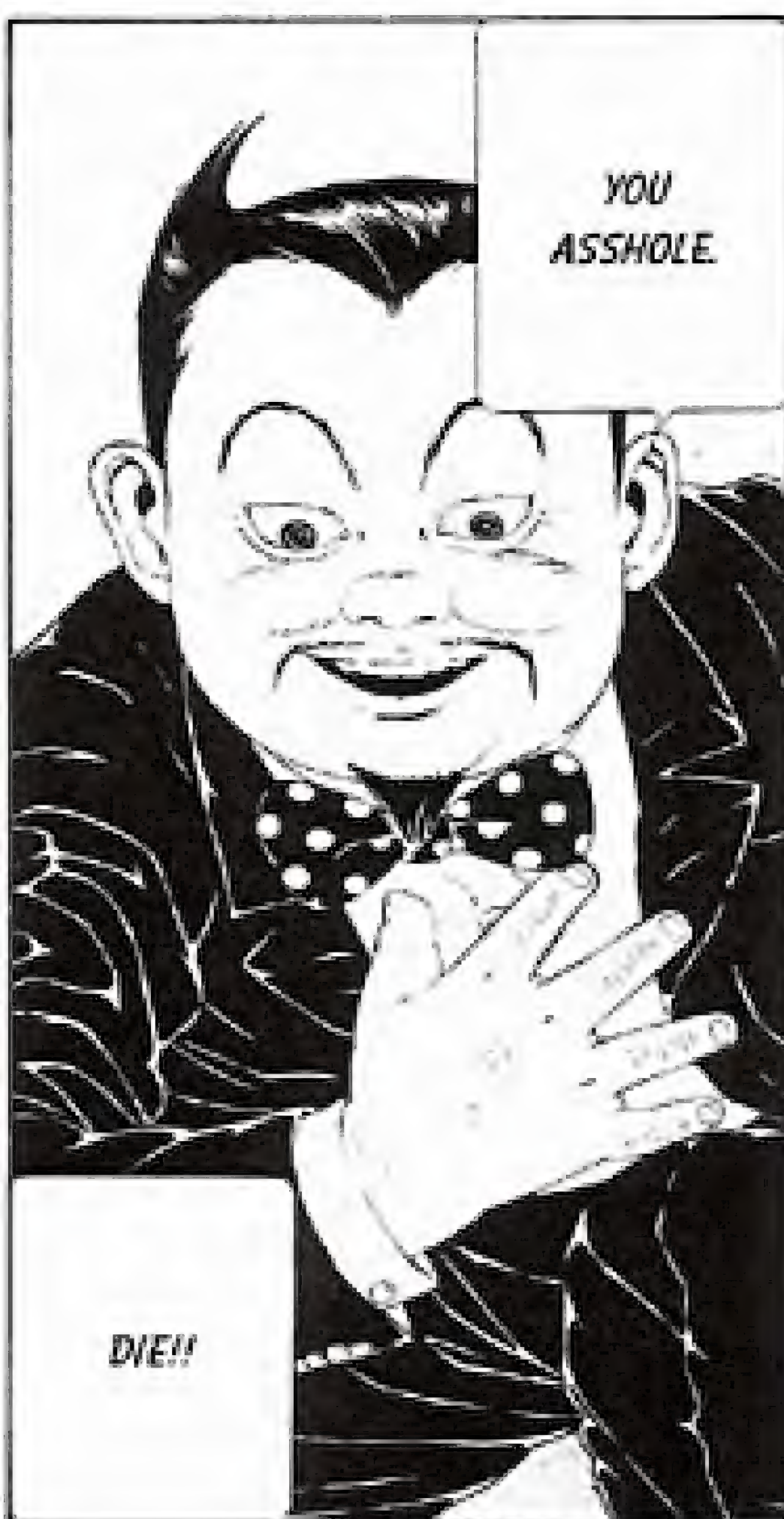
THAT'S WHY
YOU SHOULD
TAKE MY HAND.

SEE, YOU CAN'T
MAKE IT ON
YOUR OWN.



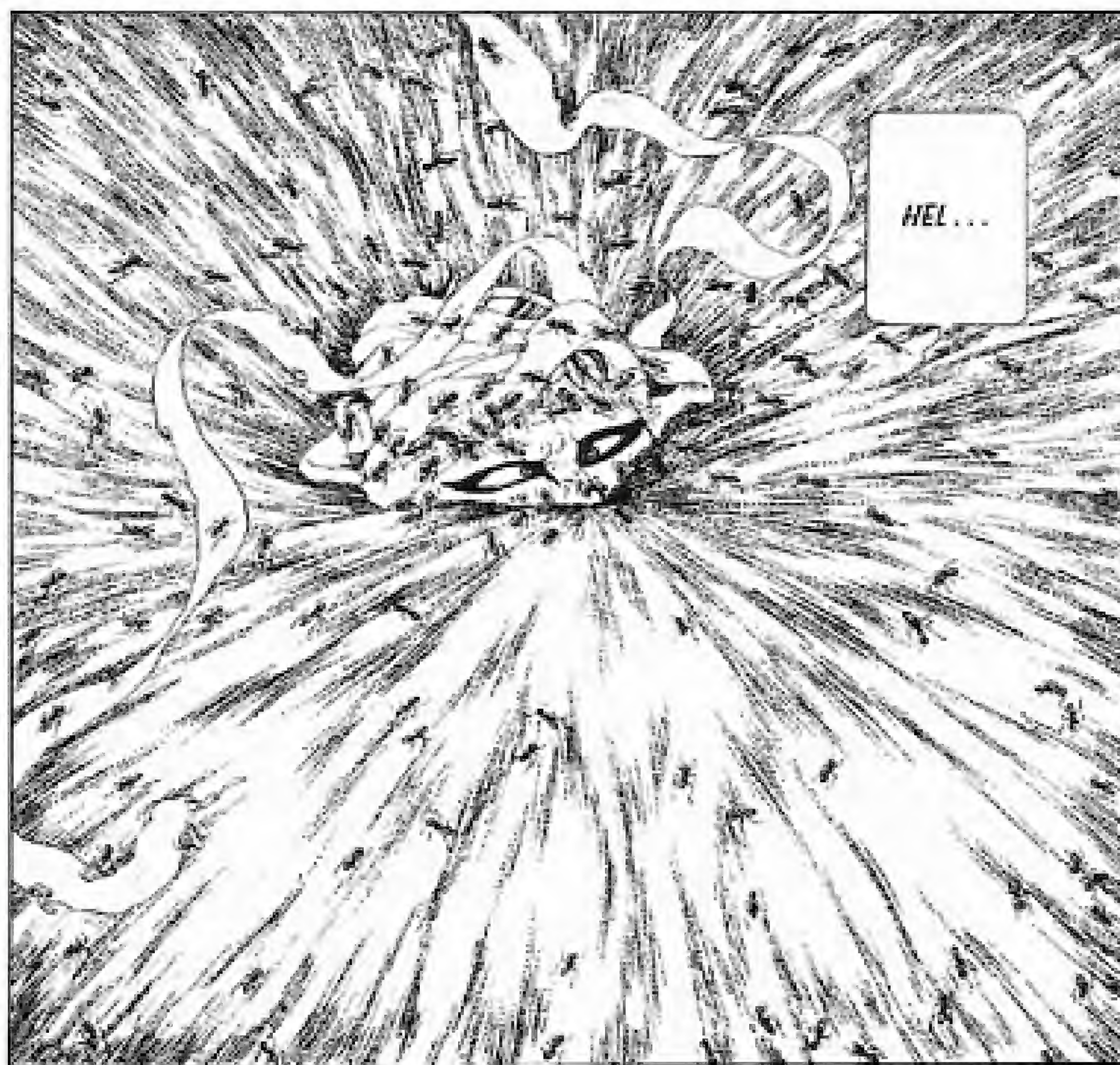
UGH...
I...
CAN'T...
BREATHE...
HELP ME...
UGH

UUUH...



YOU
ASSHOLE.

DIE!!



HEL...



WOW!
I GOT
A RAISE!



THANK YOU.



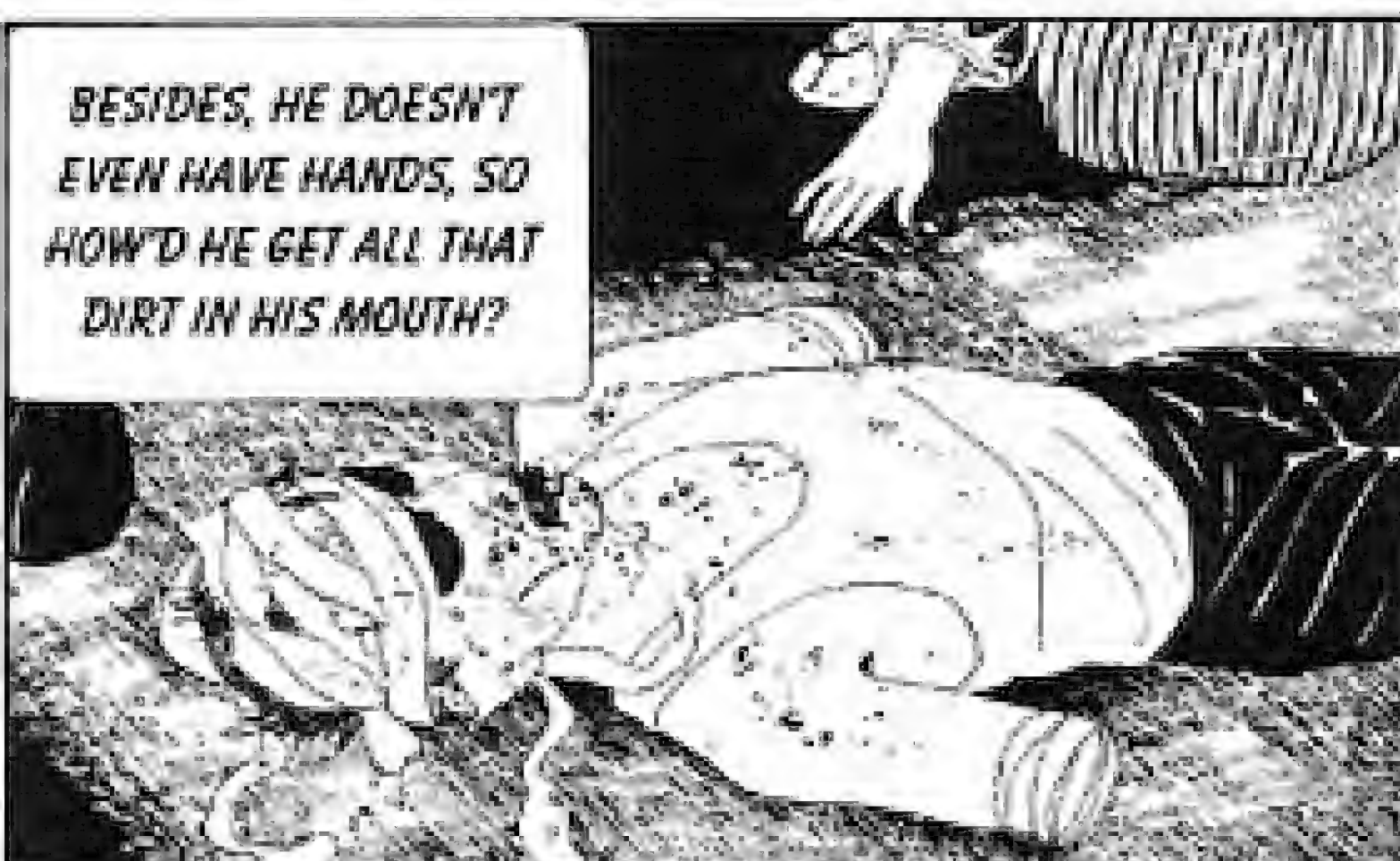
THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOUR
HARD WORK.



HEY, WHERE'S
THE MUMMY MAN?
SOMEBODY
GO FIND HIM.

ME TOO!

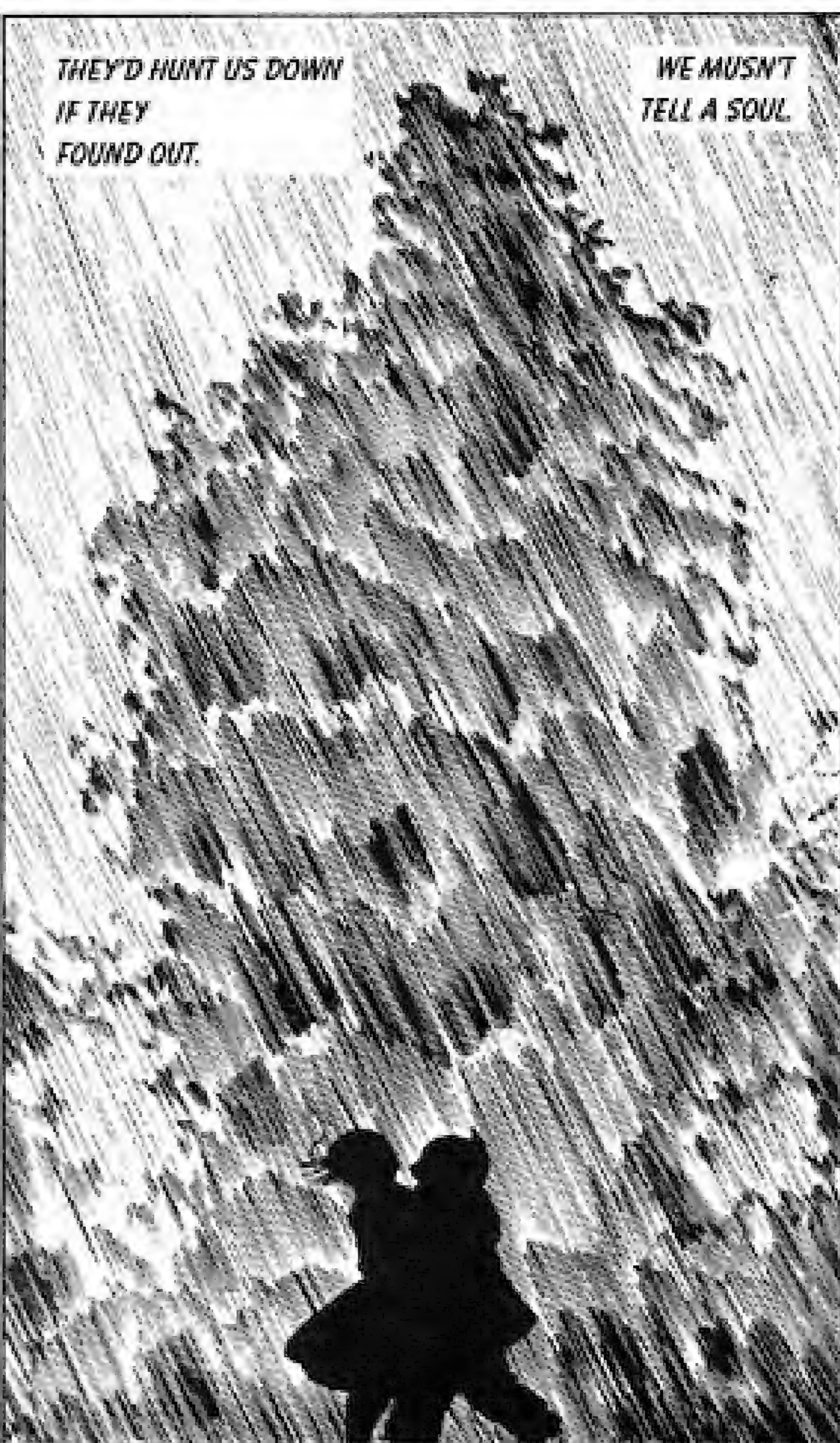








YES, I SAW IT!!
YOU WERE
SHOWING DIRT
IN HIS MOUTH...



THEY'D HUNT US DOWN
IF THEY
FOUND OUT.

WE MUSTN'T
TELL A SOUL.



... I'M SCARED!



I DID IT
FOR YOU,
MIDORI.



WE'RE
BETTER OFF
WITH THAT
ASSHOLE DEAD.



HEY, MIDORI,
YOU GOT
SOME VISITORS
HERE.



WE'D LIKE
TO SEE
MISS MIDORI.

HELLO,
EXCUSE ME.



WE'D LIKE YOU
TO STAR
IN A MOVIE.



MAY I
INTRODUCE
MYSELF?



THE MOVIES!!

WOW!
SHOCHIKU
STUDIOS!

YOU MUST
STAR IN
OUR FILM.

FROM NOW ON YOU'LL LIVE
LIKE A PRINCESS INSTEAD OF
BEING A CHILD SLAVE
TO THESE FILTHY
CARNIVAL FREAKS.

AT LAST
WE HAVE
FOUND OUR
NEW STAR!

WE'VE SEEN
YOUR STAGE
PERFORMANCE
AND YOU'RE JUST
THE GIRL WE NEED.

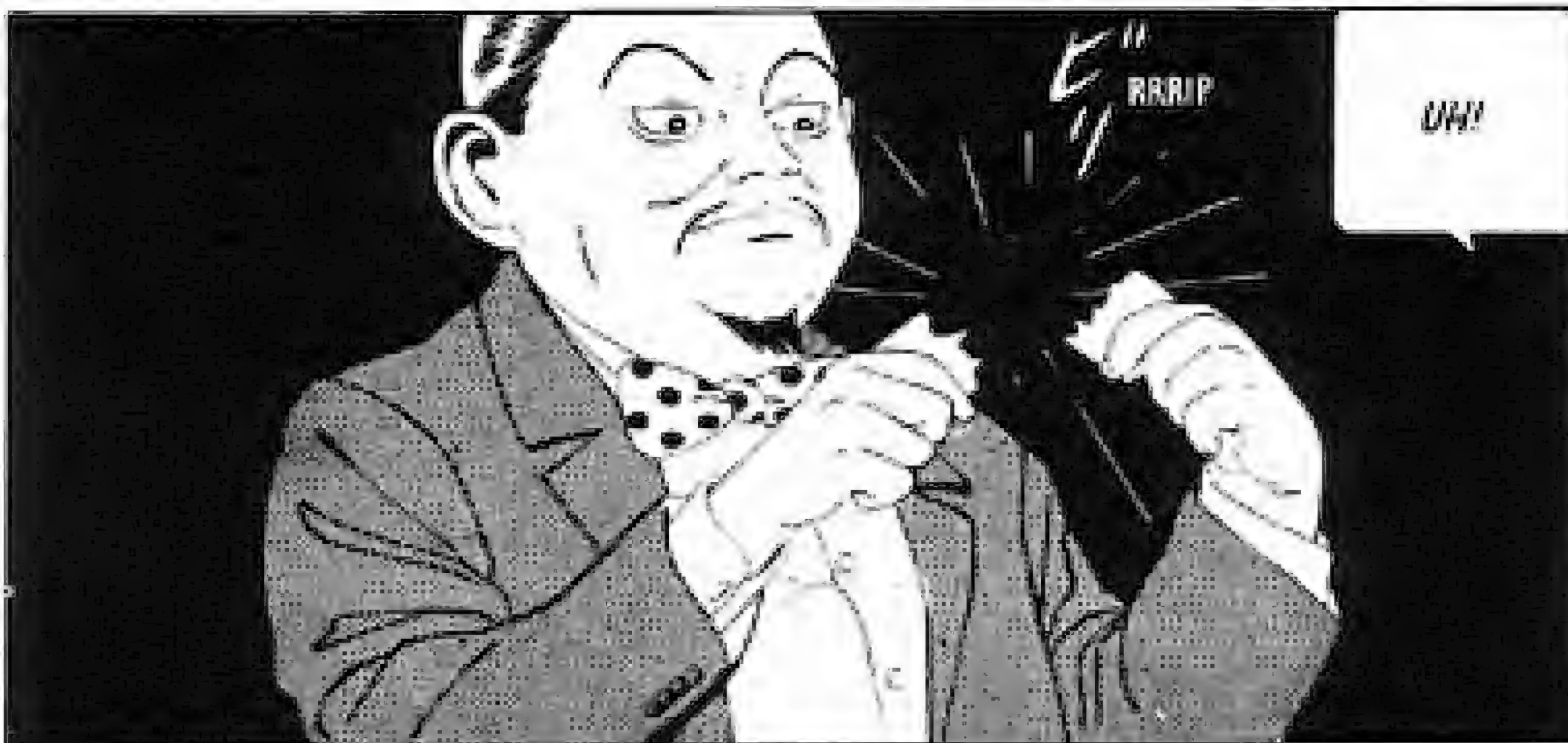
WE'RE LOOKING FOR
A GIRL TO PLAY
THE LEAD IN OUR
NEW FEATURE FILM,
WISHING
ON A STAR.

HUMPH.
MIDORI GOT
THE LEAD
ROLE.

YOU'LL BE
AN OVERNIGHT
SENSATION.

YOU'LL BE SERVED
THE FINEST DELICACIES
AND TREATED
LIKE ROYALTY.

FROM HERE ON IN
YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE
IN A PALACE.



UH!



WHAT ON EARTH
POSSESSED YOU
TO DO THAT?
ARE YOU MAD?

UHHH!



WHAT? ARE YOU
SAYING WE'RE
CON MEN?
WHY, WE'RE...

PERHAPS WE
ARE DEALING
WITH SOME
CON MEN
HERE.



I AM MIDORI'S
GUARDIAN.
I WILL DECIDE
WHAT SHE
WILL DO. GET OUT.

LEAVE IT
ALONE,
MIDORI.



GET THE
HELL OUT!!





CHAPTER SIX

THE RECKONING

Geld um Ehre nehmen!!

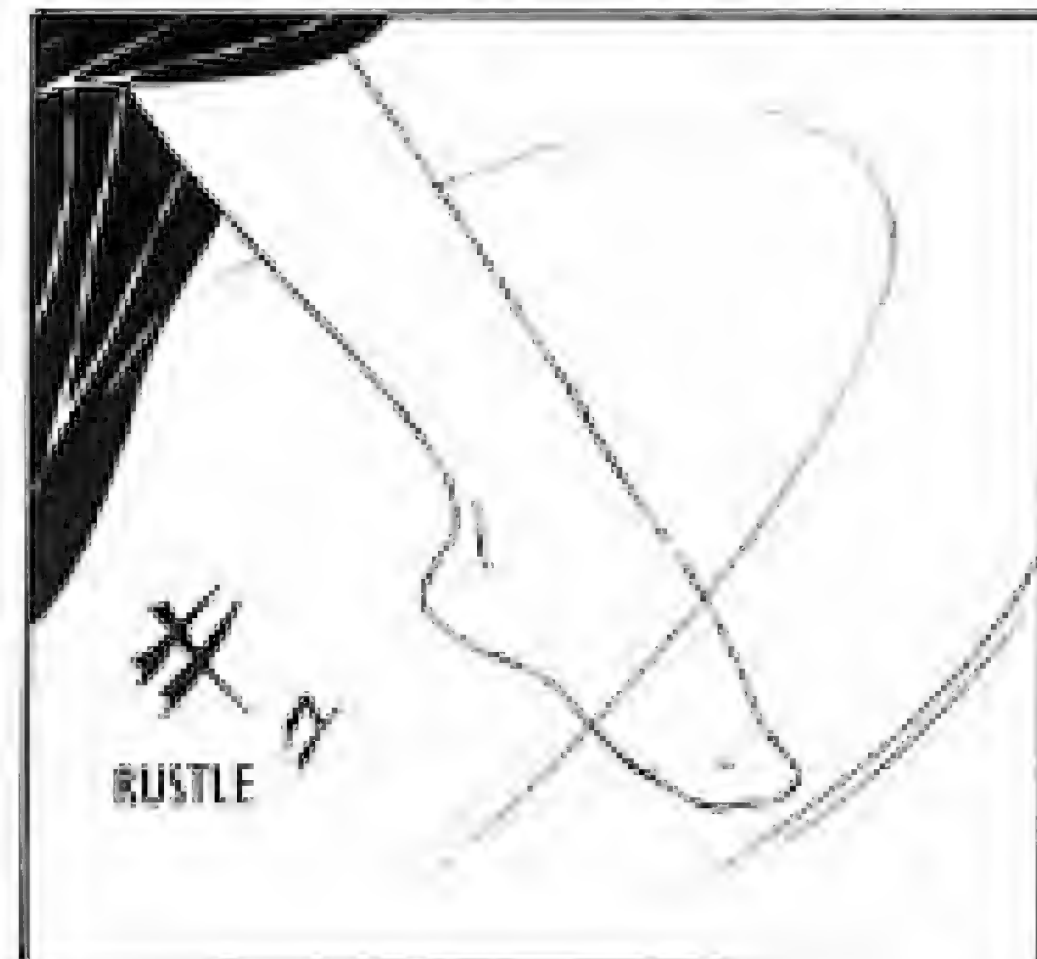
DIGNITY FOR SALE



Mule-Faced Woman
Glomming Geek
Human Torch
Alligator Lady
Amazon Giantess
Sword Swallower
Human Pincushion
Big Bertha
Pin-Headed Boy
Confounding Contortionist
Fish-Faced Girl
Hermaphrodite
Pickled Punk
Mesmer the Mentalist
Double-Bodied Wonder
Iron-Tongued Marvel
Four-Legged Girl
Third-Sex Family

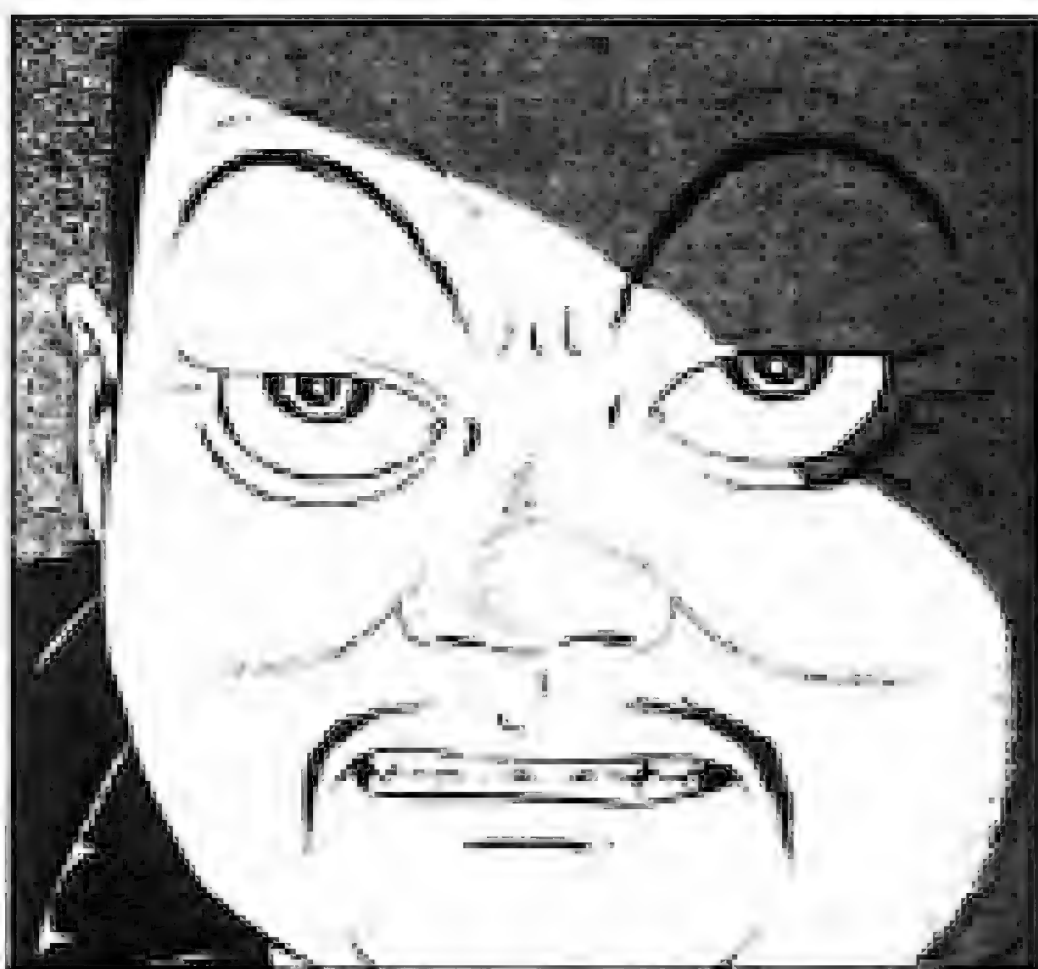
Frog Boy
Headless Girl
Tattooed Marvel
Fire Eater
Eighth Wonder of the World
Snake Charmer
Triple-Jointed Dwarf
Dog-Faced Woman
Mammoth Maniac
Windbag Man
Gargantua
Blockhead
Popeye
Pretzel Man
Pig-Faced Lady
Human Cannonball
Eighty-Year-Old Boy
Anatomical Wonder

The Human Lightning Rod
Amazing Memory Man
Cloven-Hoofed Girl
Perplexing Prestidigitateur
Herculean Hulk
Incombustible Woman
Fire King
Stone Eater
The Human Aquarium
Le Pétomane
Man with X-Ray Eyes
Fire Walker
Mermaid Baby
Horned Woman
Armless Wonder
Iron-Neck Phenomenon
Two-Faced Man
The Human Knot



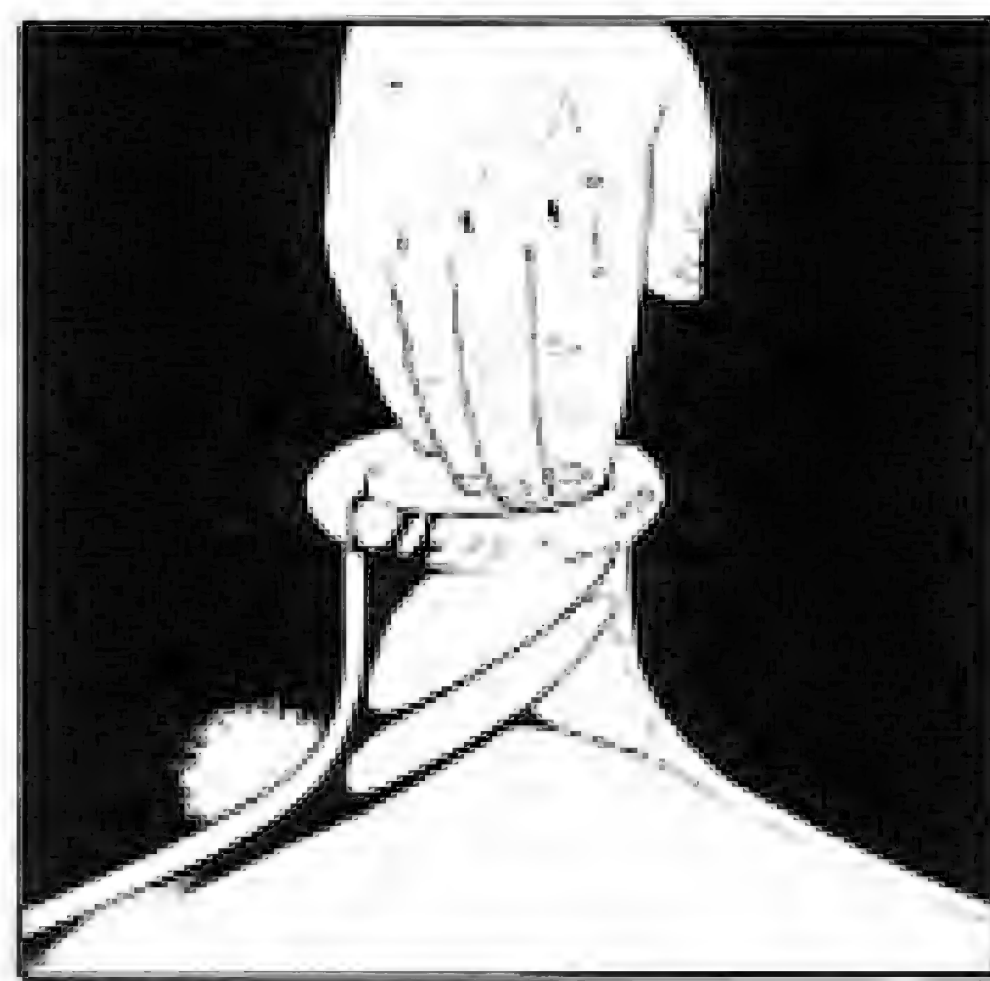
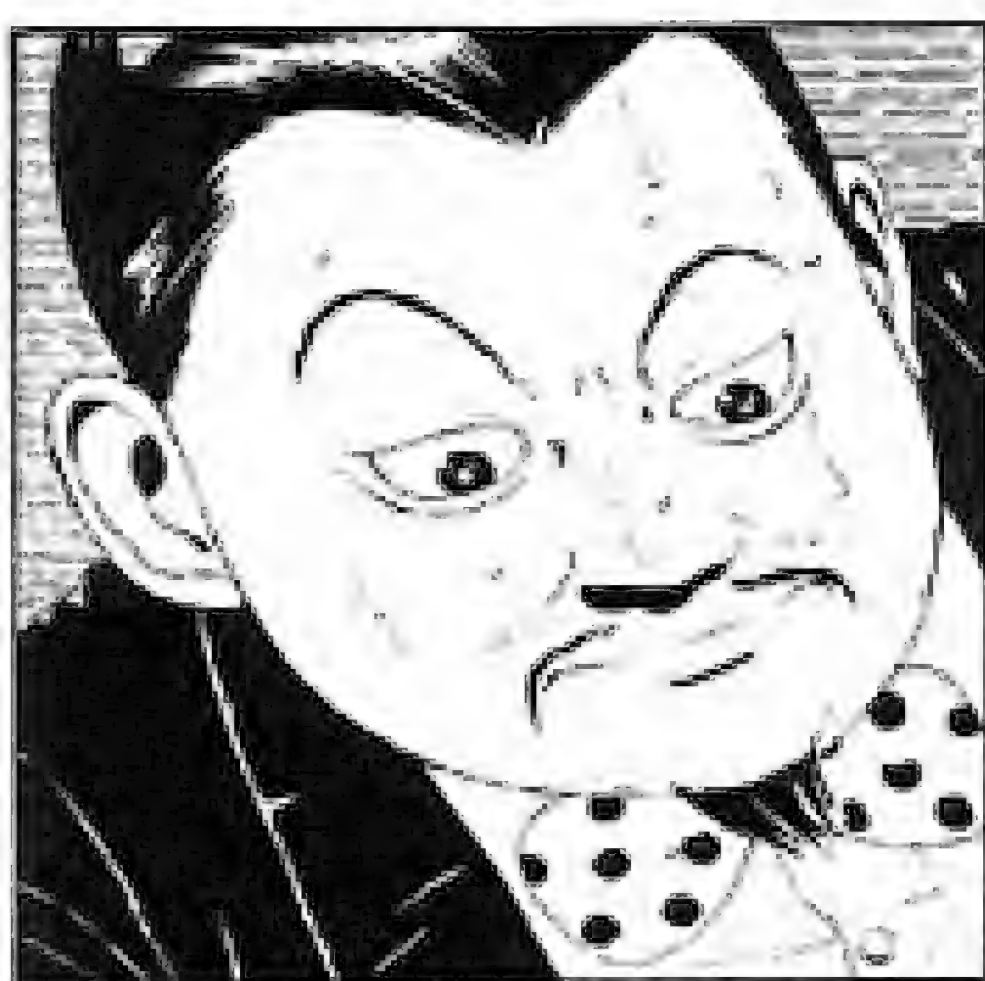
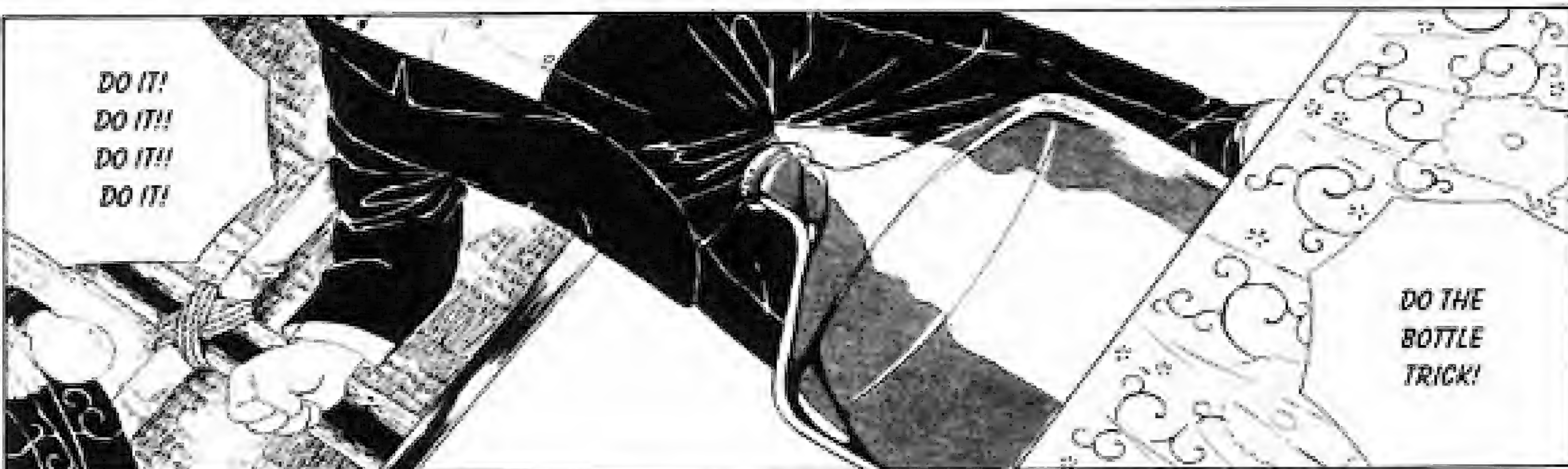
UAPF.

IF YOU CAN'T OBEY ME,
YOU CAN JUST STAY IN
THAT POSITION
FOR A WHILE.



I'LL GO ON
ALONE.







I CAN'T
CONCENTRATE!!

SHUT UP!!
BE QUIET!!

MAN,
WHAT'S HIS
PROBLEM?



YOU'RE LAZY
AND GREEDY...
SELF-PERSECUTED
WRETCHES—

YOU'RE JUST
CURIOSITY
SEEKERS.

YOU'RE
NOTHING
BUT A
BUNCH OF
COWARDS!

GET
ON MY
NERVES!!

ALL OF
YOU...

HEY!
WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT!!



YOU CAN'T
TALK TO YOUR
AUDIENCE
THAT WAY!!

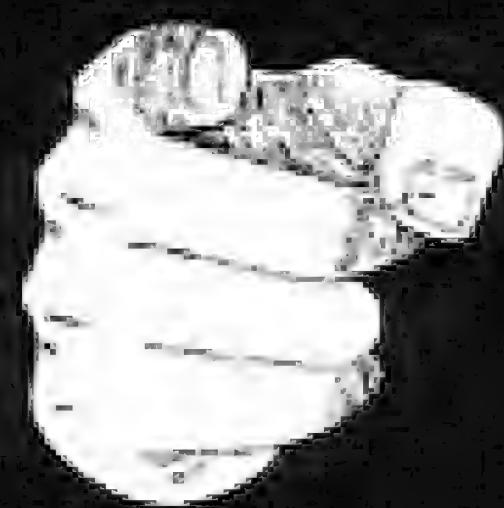
MAYBE
YOU'RE NORMAL,
BUT YOU'RE
ALL FOOLS.

YOU WALK
AROUND LIKE
YOU OWN
THE WORLD.

FUCKING
MIDGET!!

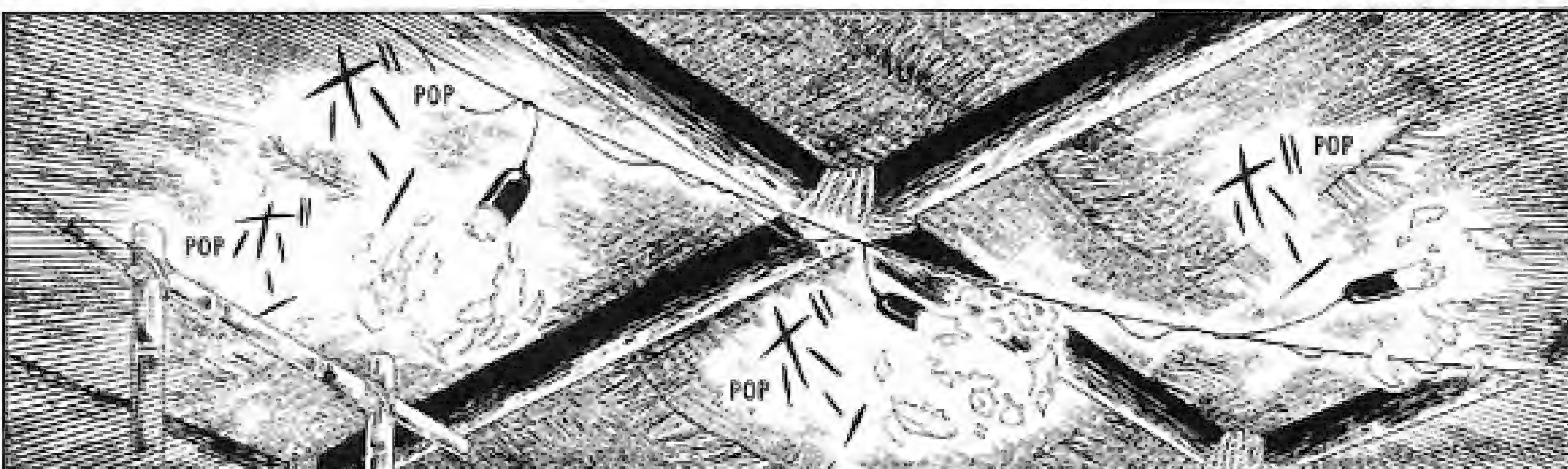
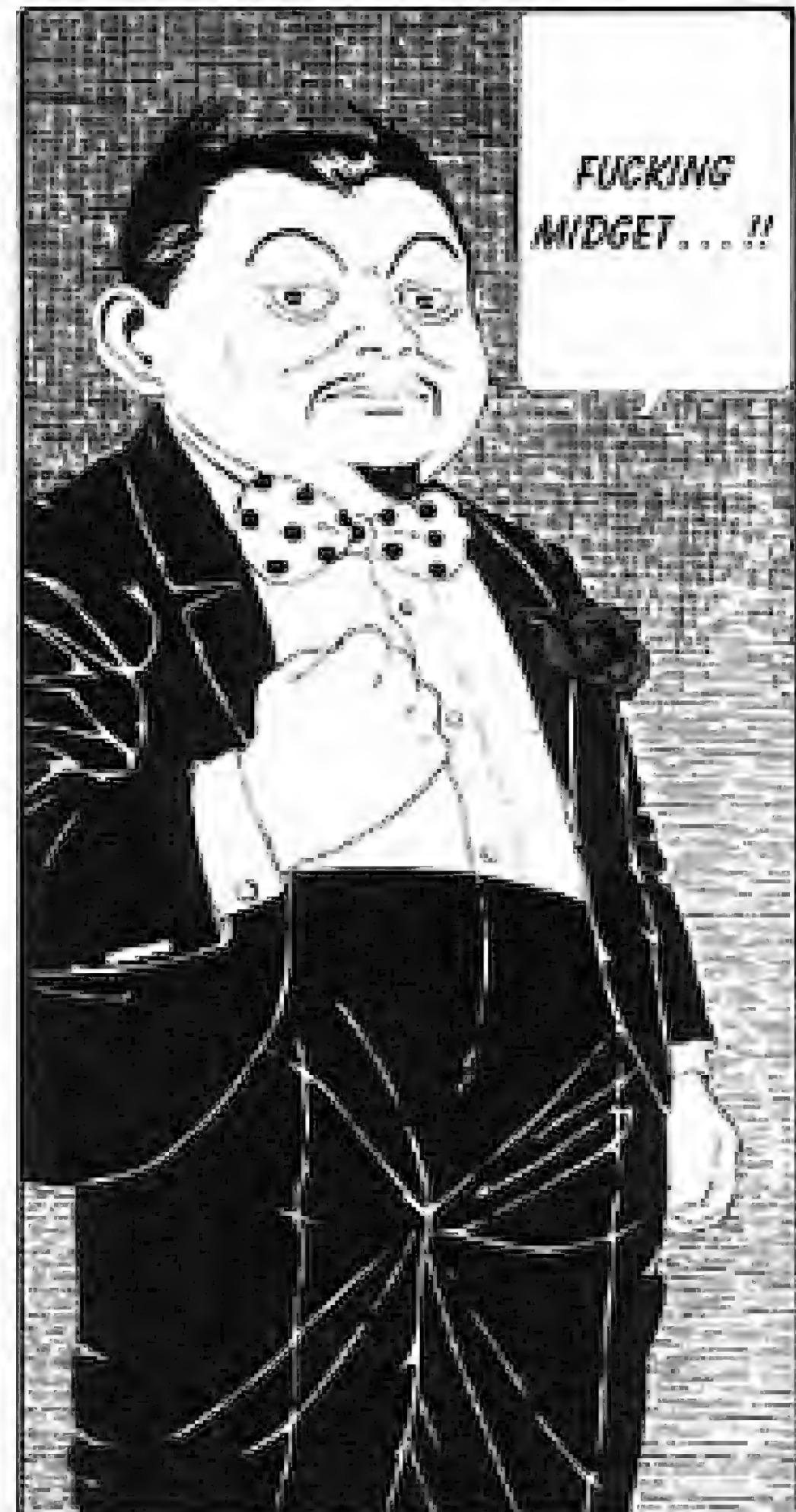
WHAT
THE HELL
DO YOU THINK...

YOU'RE
GONNA BE SORRY!!



YOU!!
YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE SAID THAT.

FUCKING
MIDGET...!!



YAAAAA!!

WAAAH!!





OOO-WAAAH

DRRRRR



OOO-WAAAH



WHAT
THE HELL...



AHHH...
AHHH...
ST...
STOP IT!!
AWUHHH...

STOP IT!!
PLEASE!
PLEASE!
STOP!!
STOP!!



OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH

OOO-WAAAH



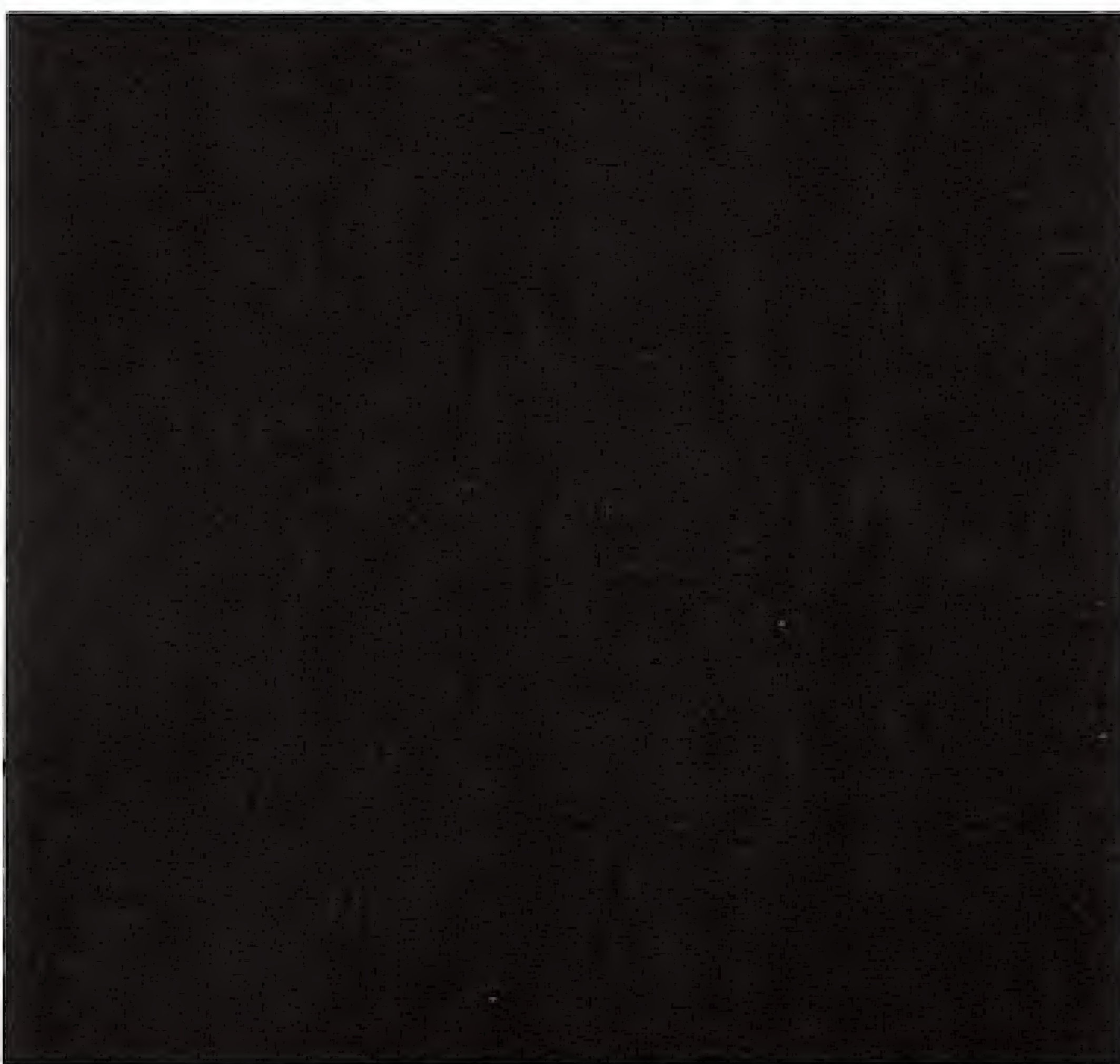
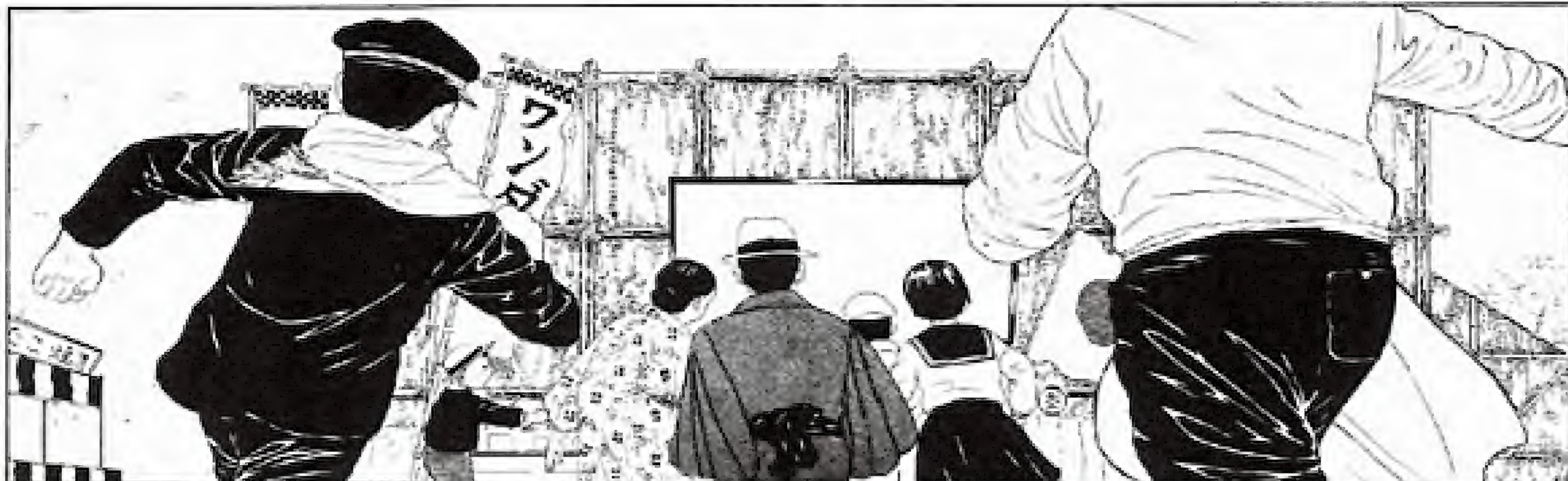
CONVULSE!!
TWIST YOUR BONES!!

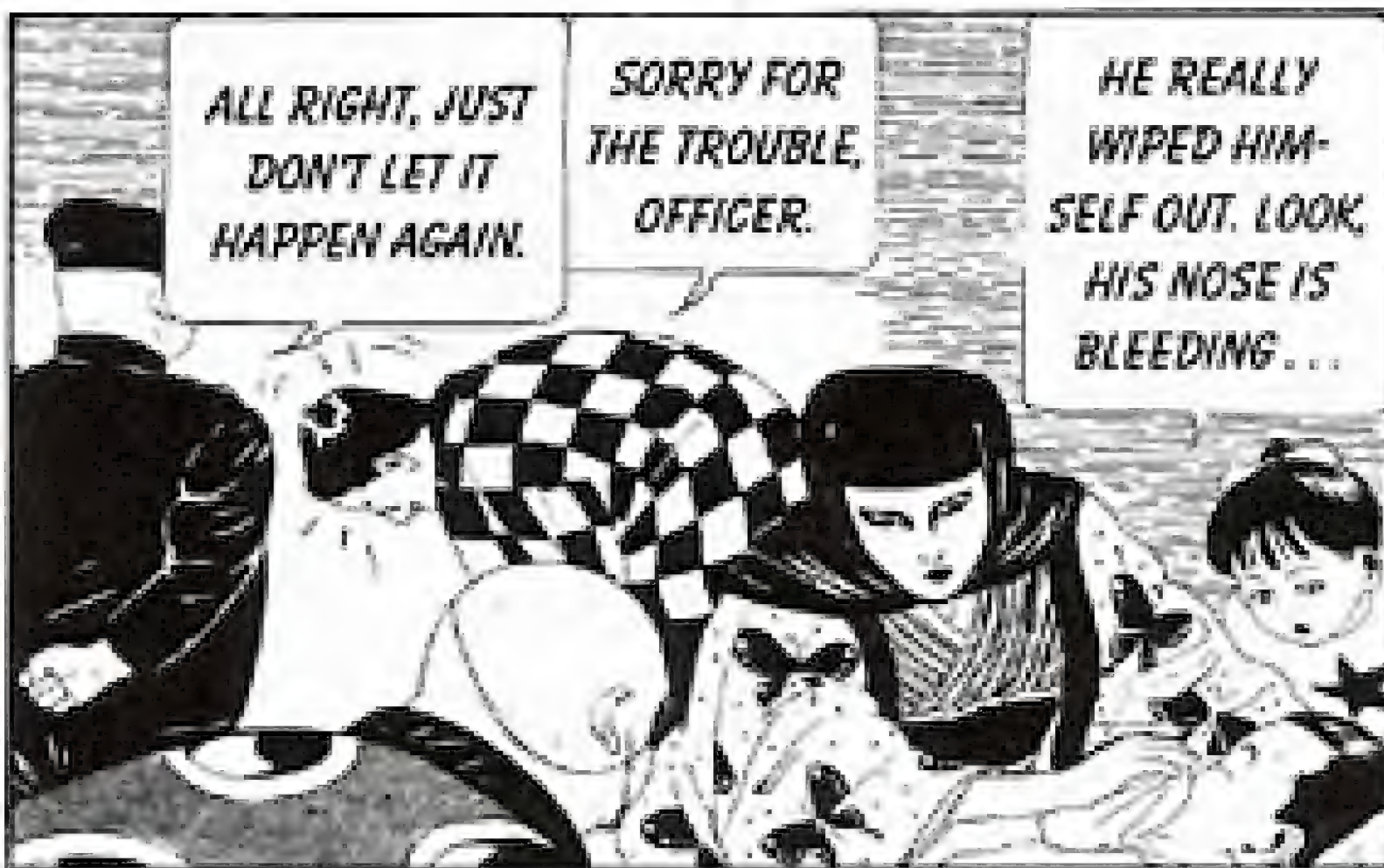
SWELL UP
TILL YOU BUST!!











ALL RIGHT, JUST
DON'T LET IT
HAPPEN AGAIN.

SORRY FOR
THE TROUBLE,
OFFICER.

HE REALLY
WIPED HIM-
SELF OUT. LOOK,
HIS NOSE IS
BLEEDING...



OF COURSE
IT WON'T.
I'M TERRIBLY
SORRY.

I HAVEN'T SEEN
ANYTHING SO
EXCITING SINCE
I DON'T KNOW WHEN.

IT WAS FUCKING
GREAT. JUST
WATCHING IT WAS
FUCKING GREAT.



I WISH
THEY'D HAVE
ALL GOTTEN
STUCK LIKE THAT.

YEAH! AFTER ALL,
THEY WENT BACK
TO NORMAL.

HEY,
RELAX,
BOSS!!



THAT WAS
DEPLORABLE!

MASAMITSU,



WE HAVE
TO MOVE.

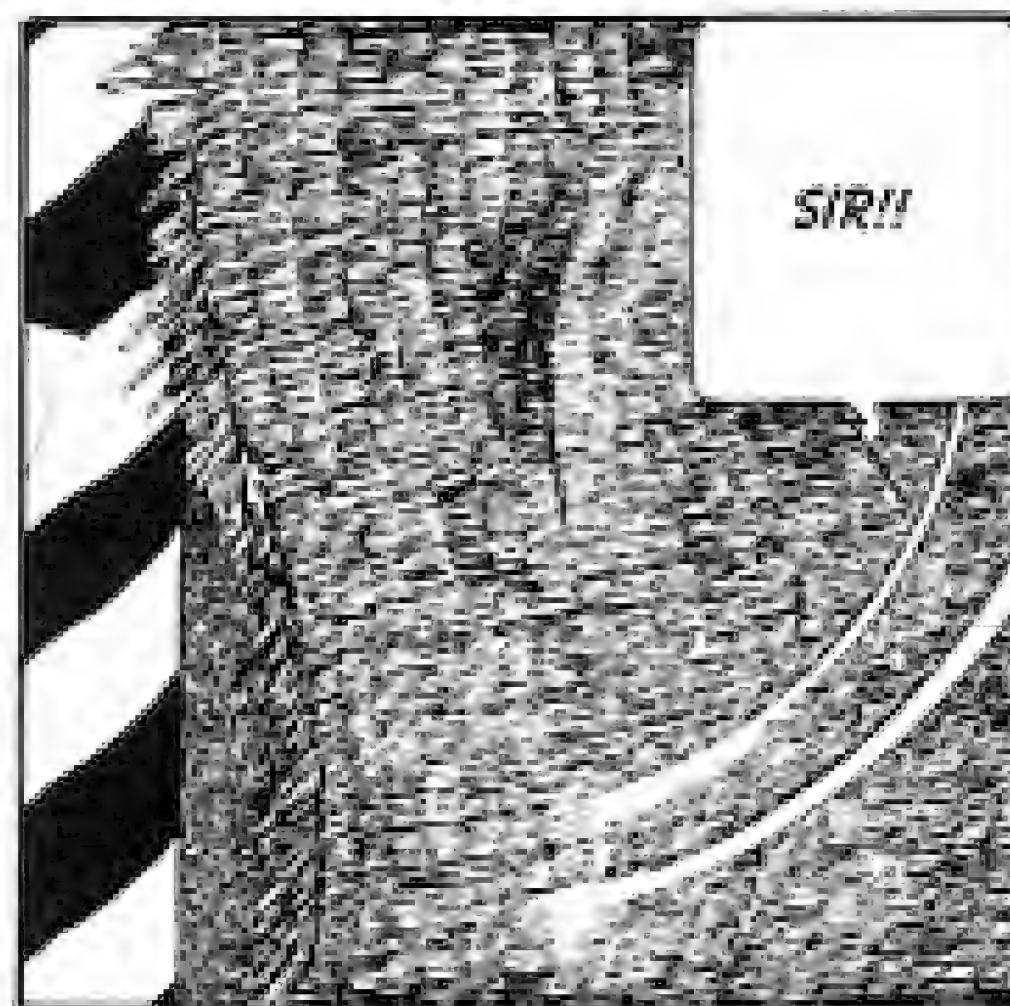
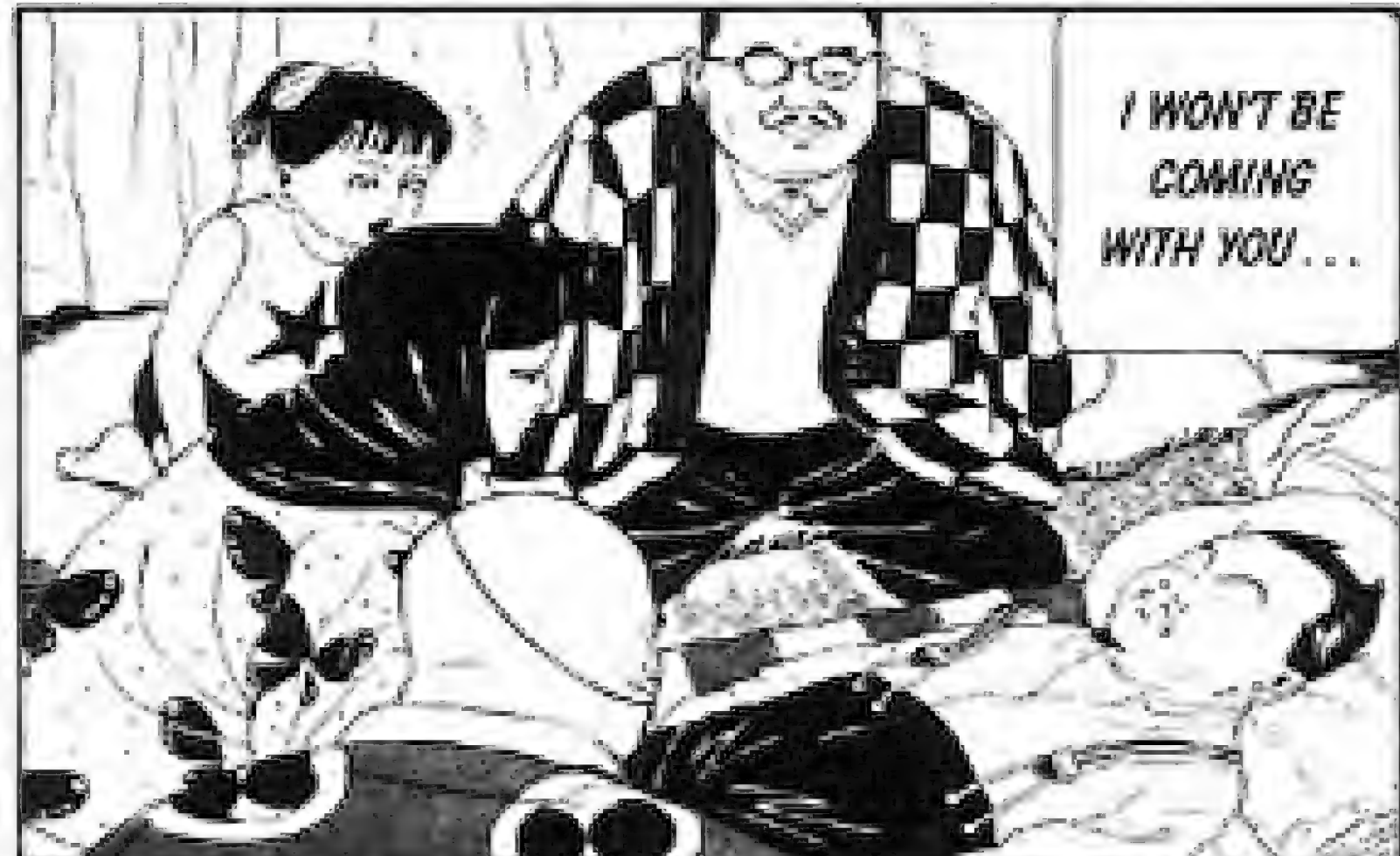
WE'RE
FINISHED
IN THIS
TOWN.



THEY MUST
HAVE FELT
LIKE THEY'D
DIED AND
GONE TO HELL.

BUT THEY DIDN'T
GO BERSERK. THEY
JUST QUIETLY
WENT BACK HOME.

IDIOTS!! WHAT IF
THE CROWD HAD GONE
BERSERK AFTER WHAT
HE DID TO THEM,
THEN WHAT!!





NO. I DON'T
WANT TO GO
ANYWHERE.

COME WITH ME!!

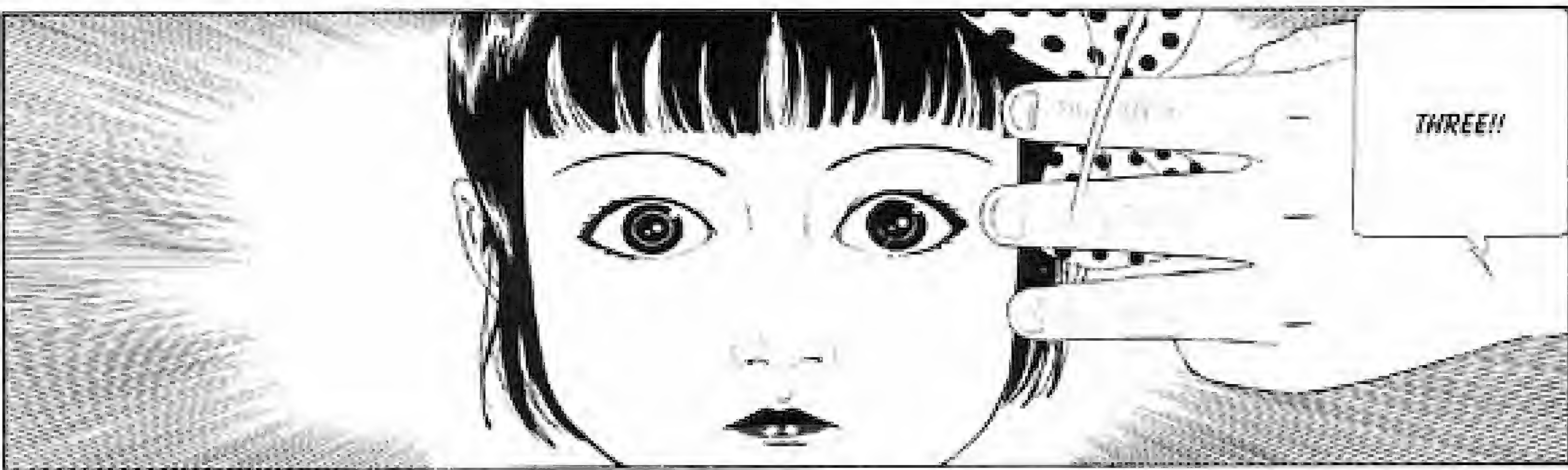
I WON'T
GIVE YOU UP
FOR ANYTHING
OR ANYBODY.


I JUST WANNA GO HOME!!

**CHAPTER
SEVEN**

**'TIL
DEATH
DO US
PART**







KEEP GOING,
STRAIGHT AHEAD
TO THE INSIDE.



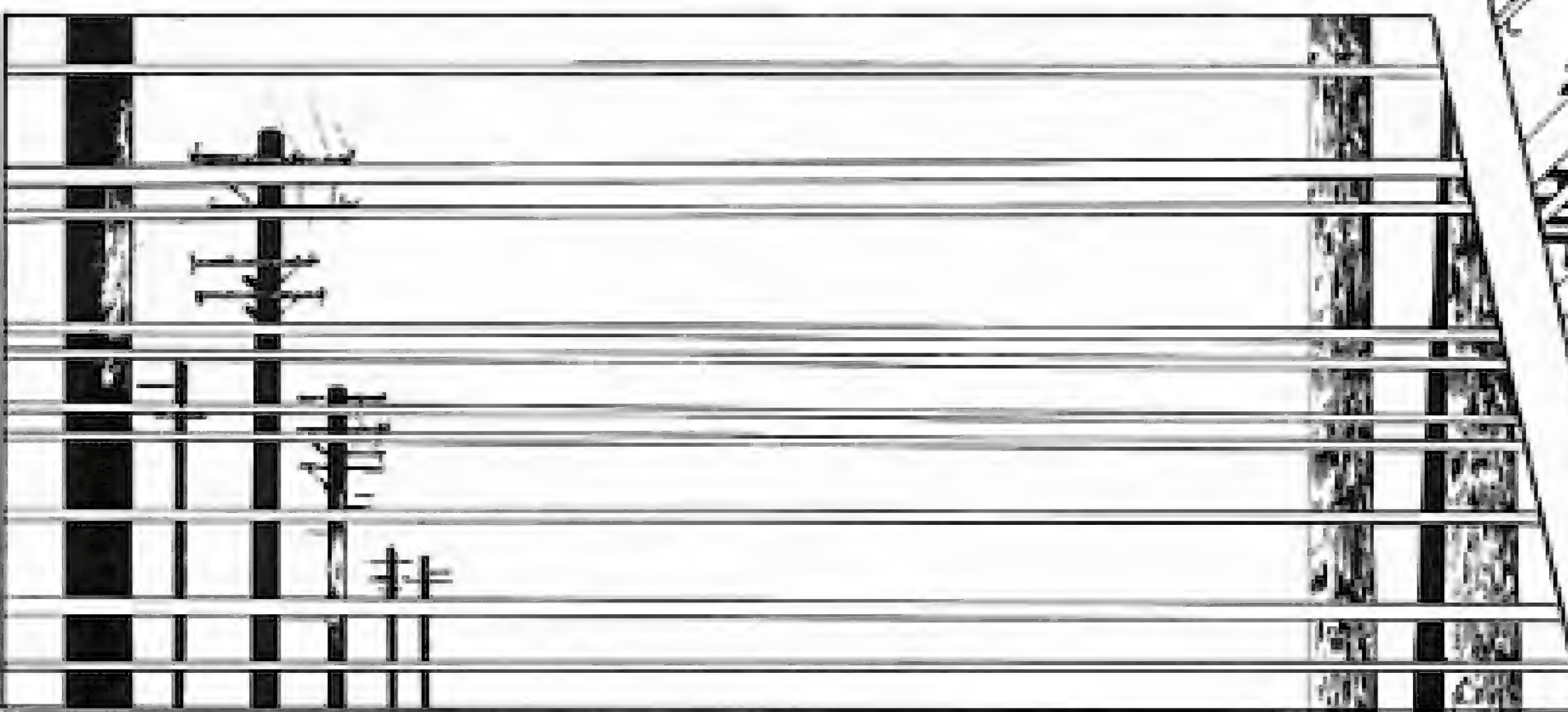
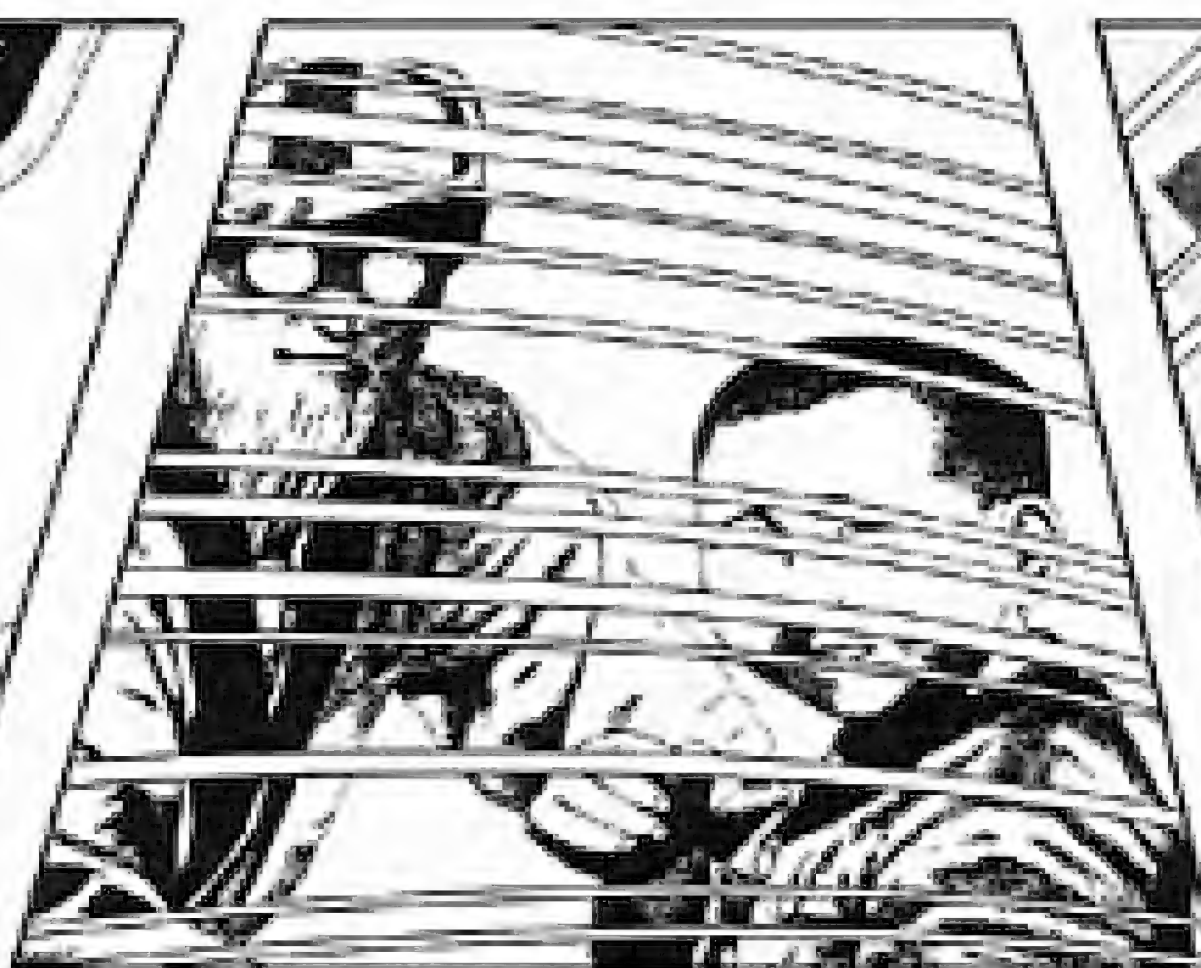
CONTINUE,
FARTHER.

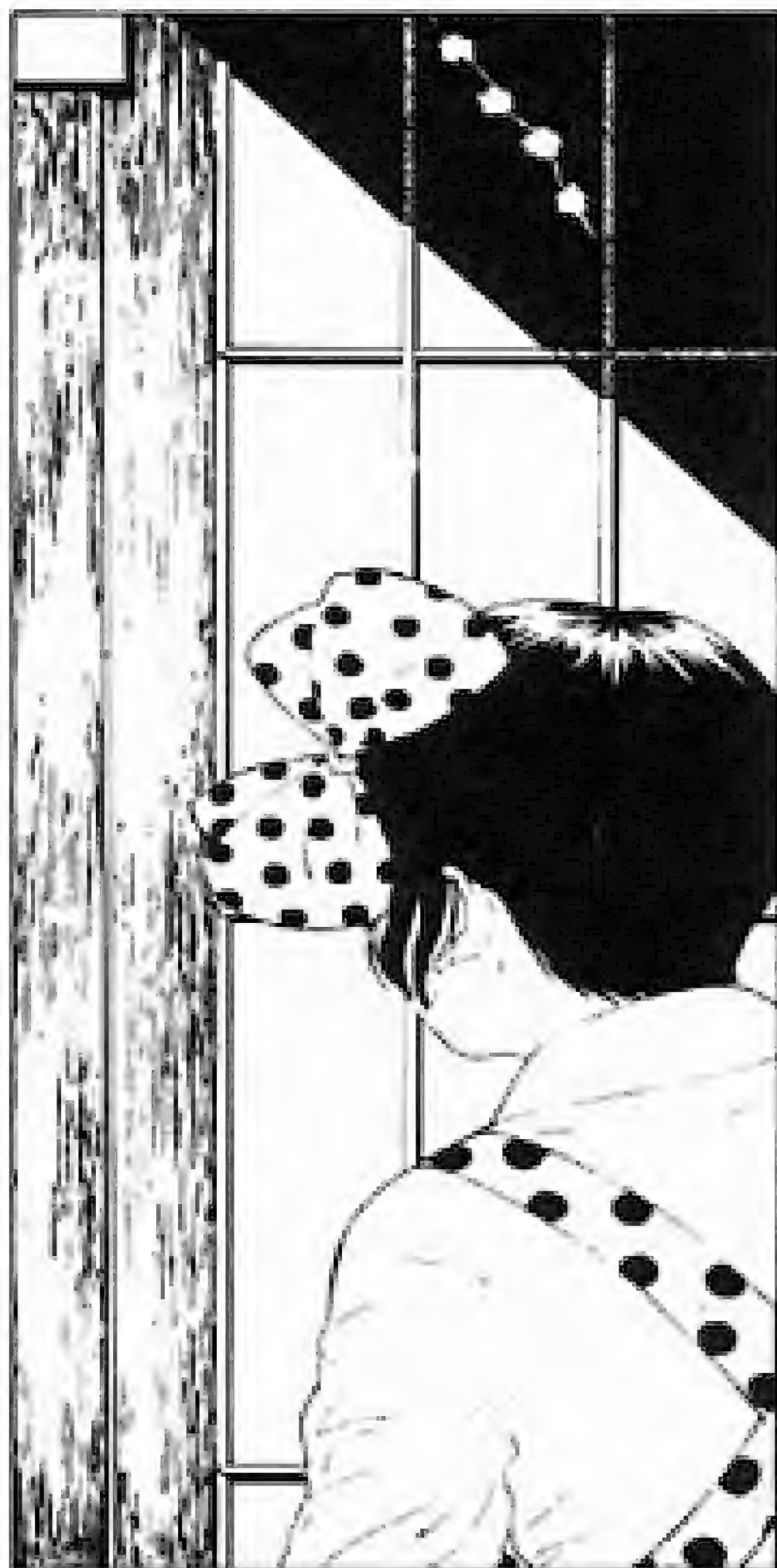


HUH!?



I'M IN TOKYO!!
IT'S ASAKUSA!







MIDORI,
WHY ARE YOU
SO LATE?
YOU KNOW
BETTER
THAN THAT!



COME ON
AND GET YOUR
DINNER SO I CAN
FINISH CLEANING
UP THE TABLE.

MIDORI,
WHAT'S THE
MATTER?

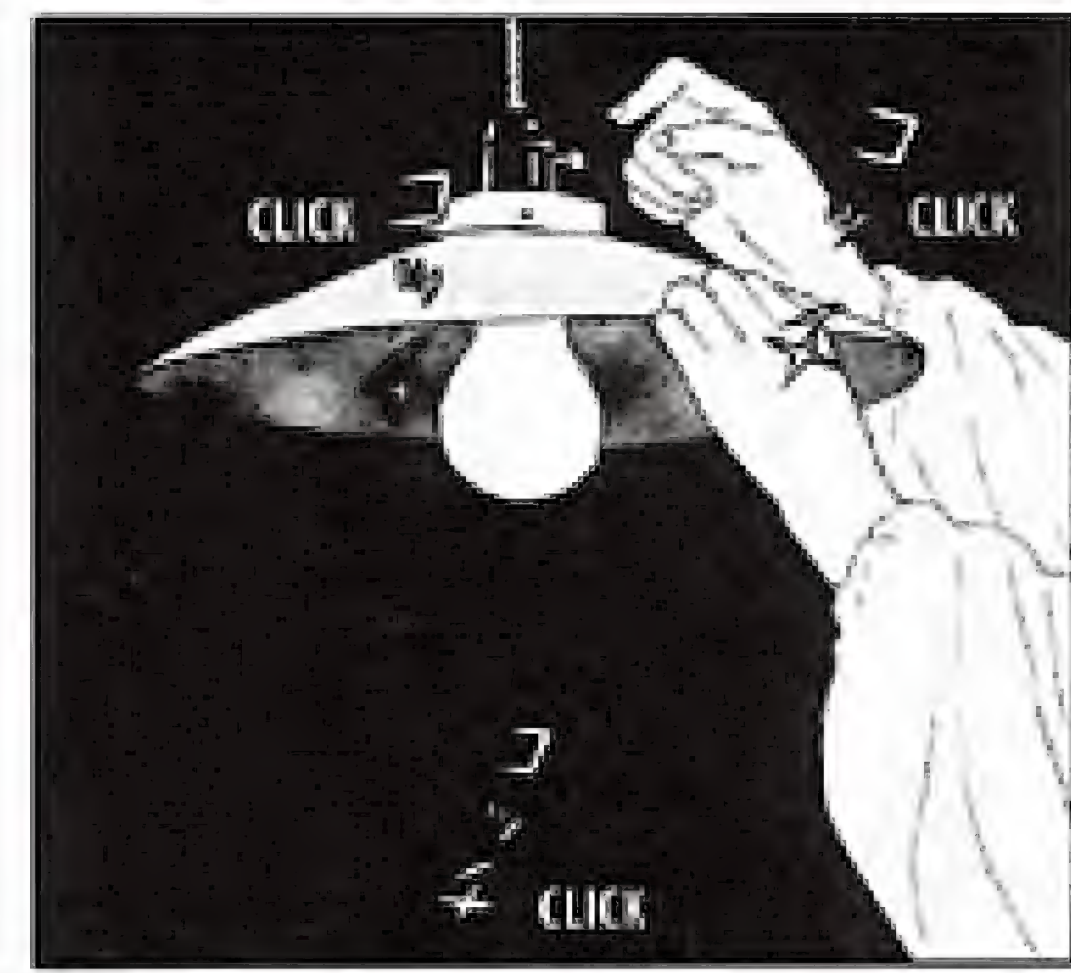
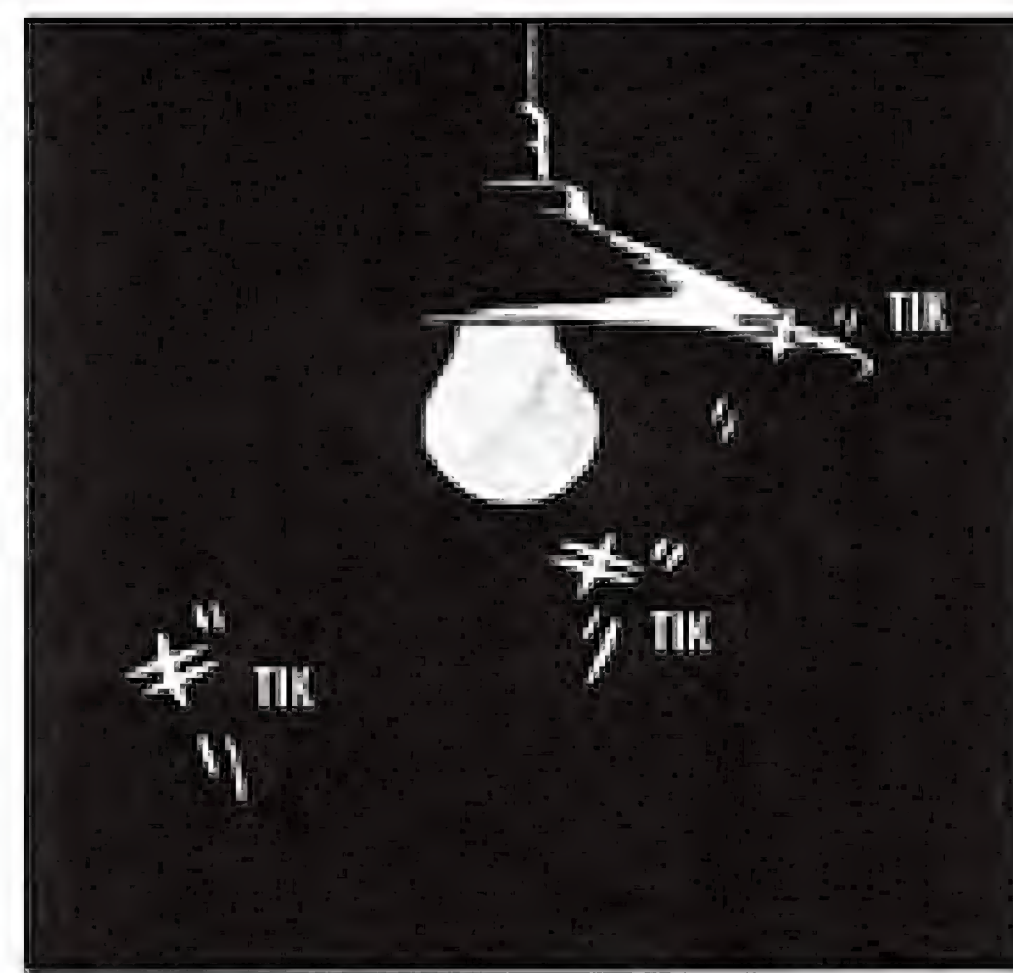


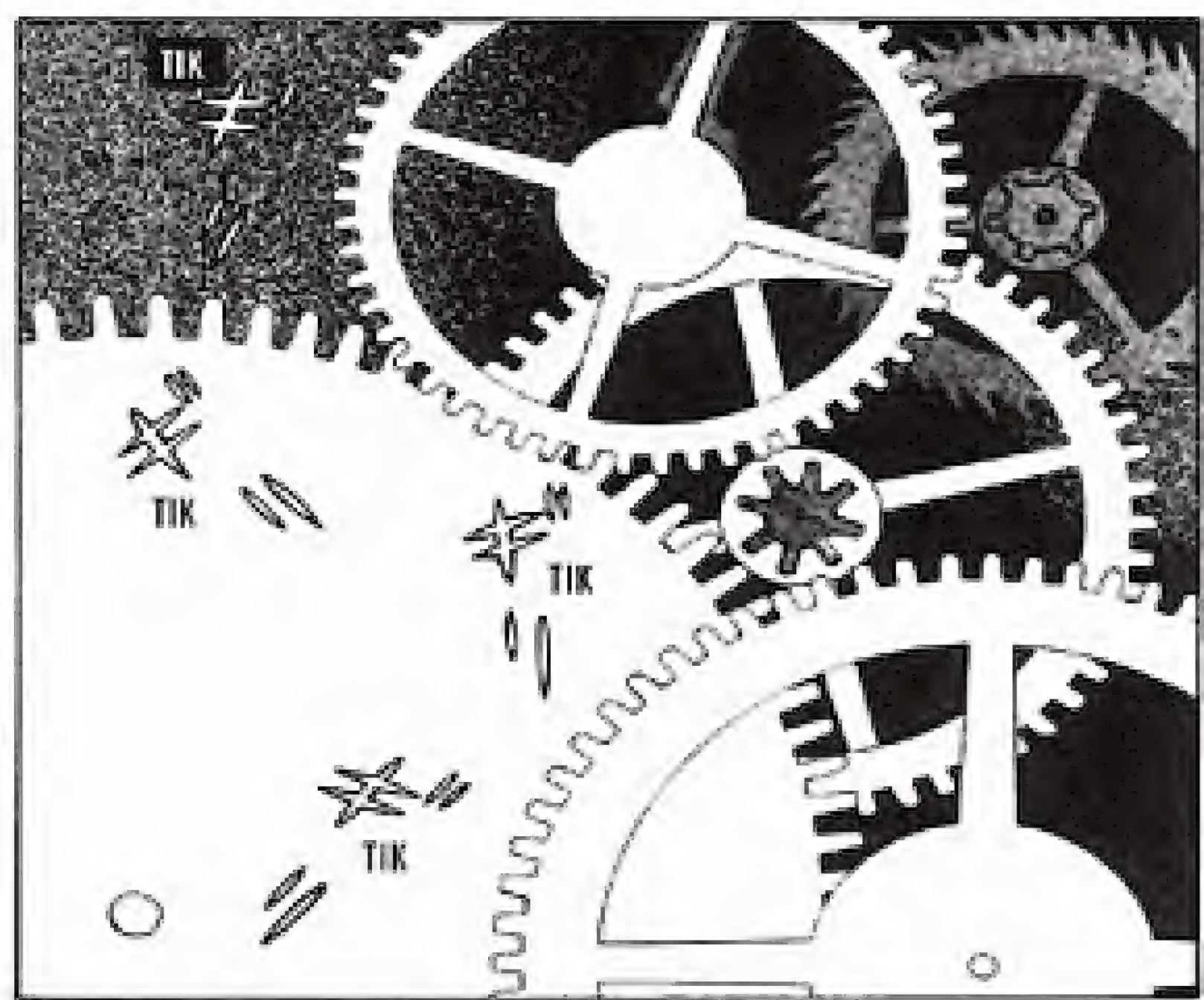
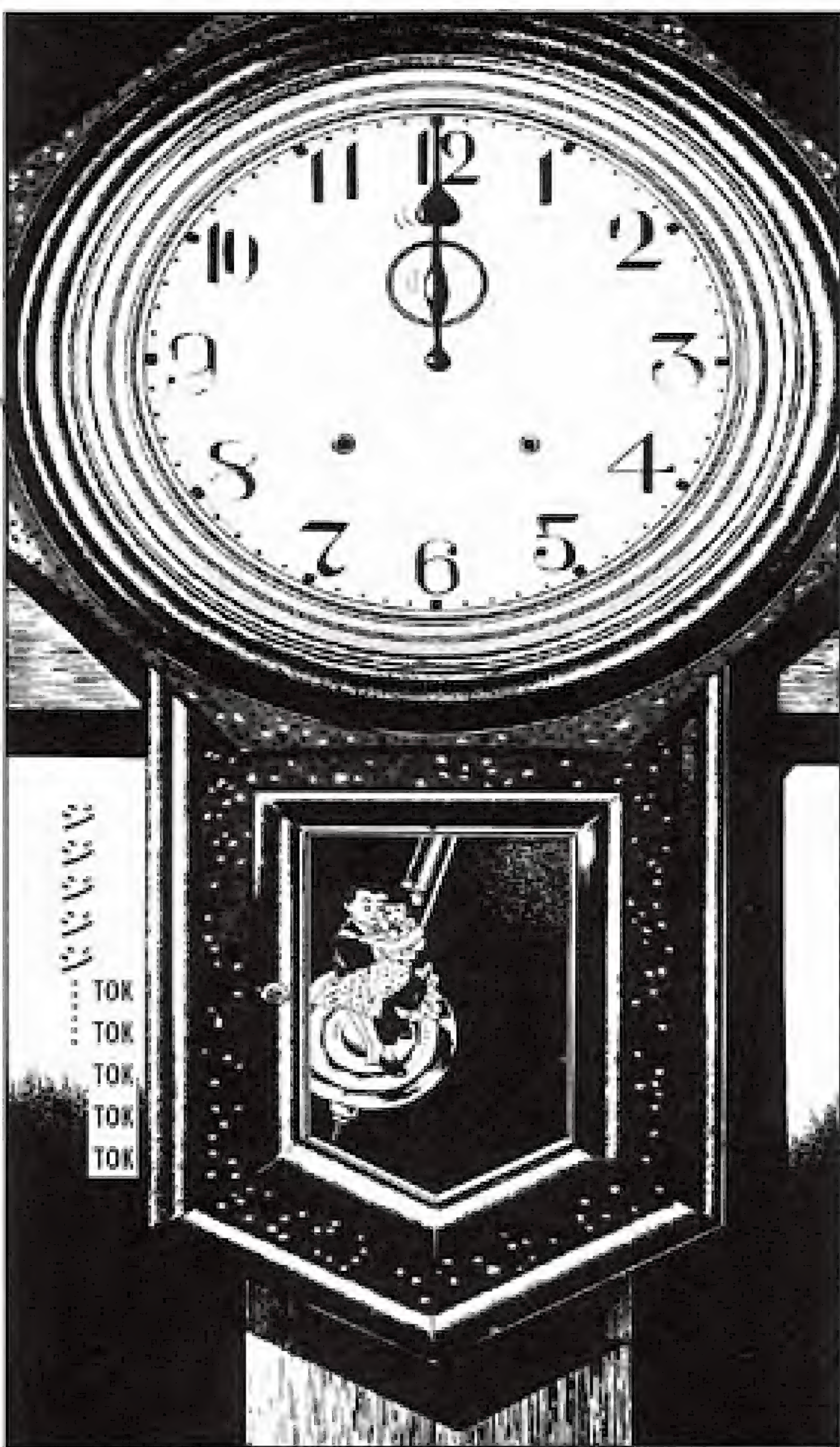
WHAT'S
THAT?

HERE
YOU ARE.

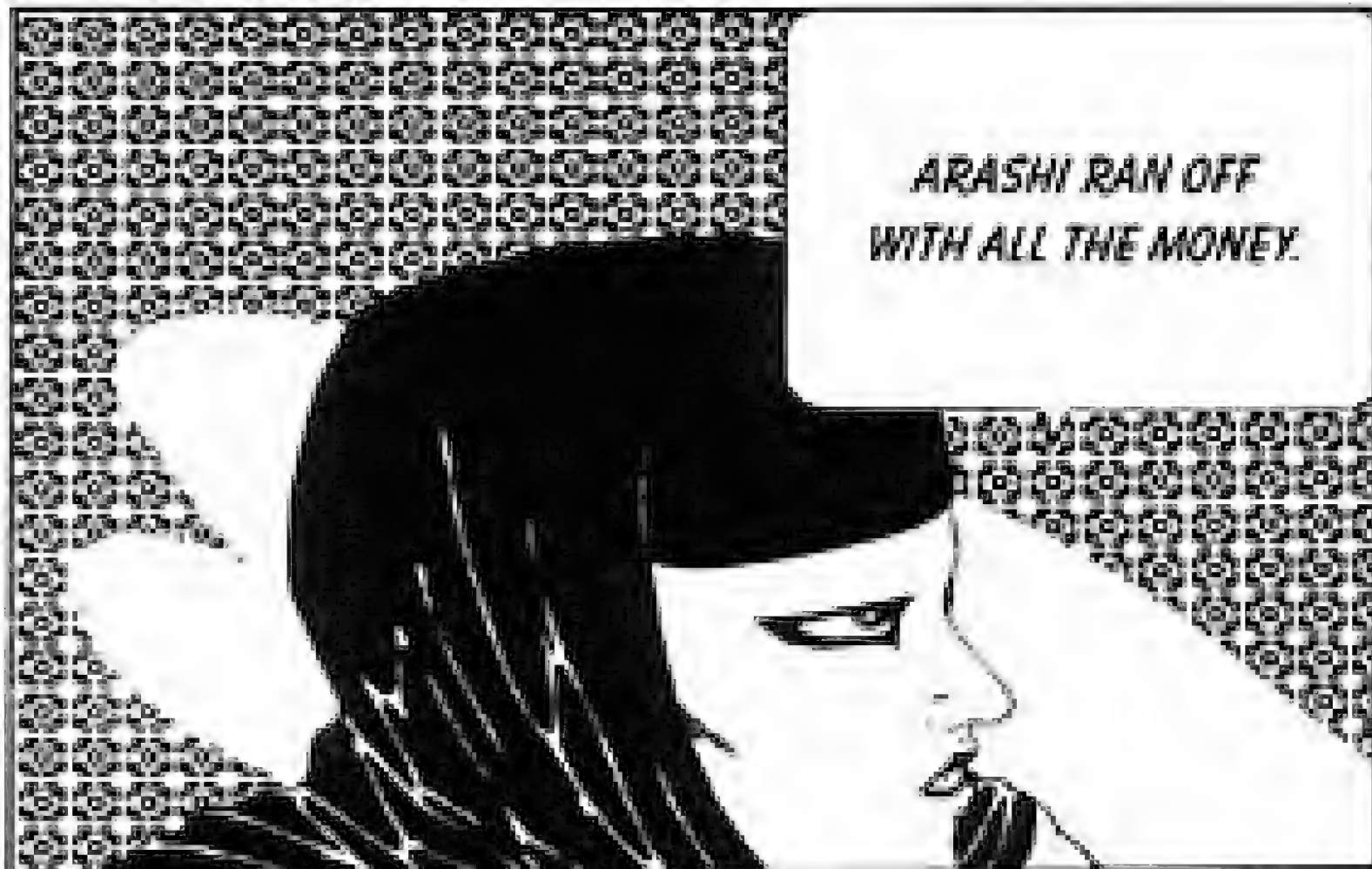


YEP.













WELL, DON'T WORRY
ABOUT ME.
I'VE GOT A JOB
AT ANOTHER CIRCUS.

SHUT UP.
MIND YOUR
OWN BUSINESS.



AT YOUR AGE?

I'LL FIND MYSELF
A RICH OLD MAN
AND EVERYTHING
WILL TURN OUT
ALL RIGHT.



YOU GUYS DON'T
NEED TO WORRY.
I'LL INTRODUCE
YOU TO THEM.



THANK YOU
FOR TAKING
CARE OF ME.

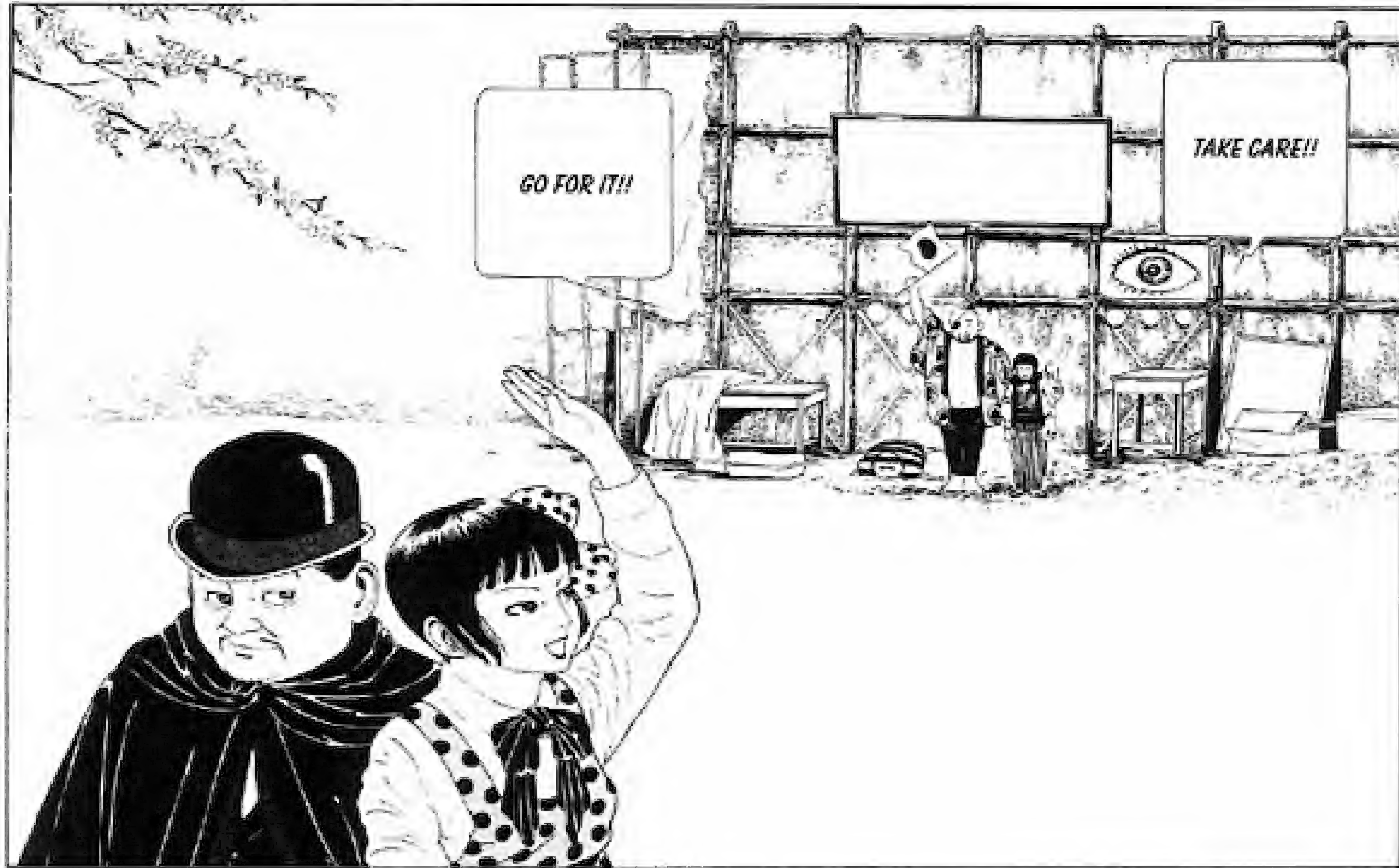


MIDORI,
YOU LOOK
REAL CUTE.



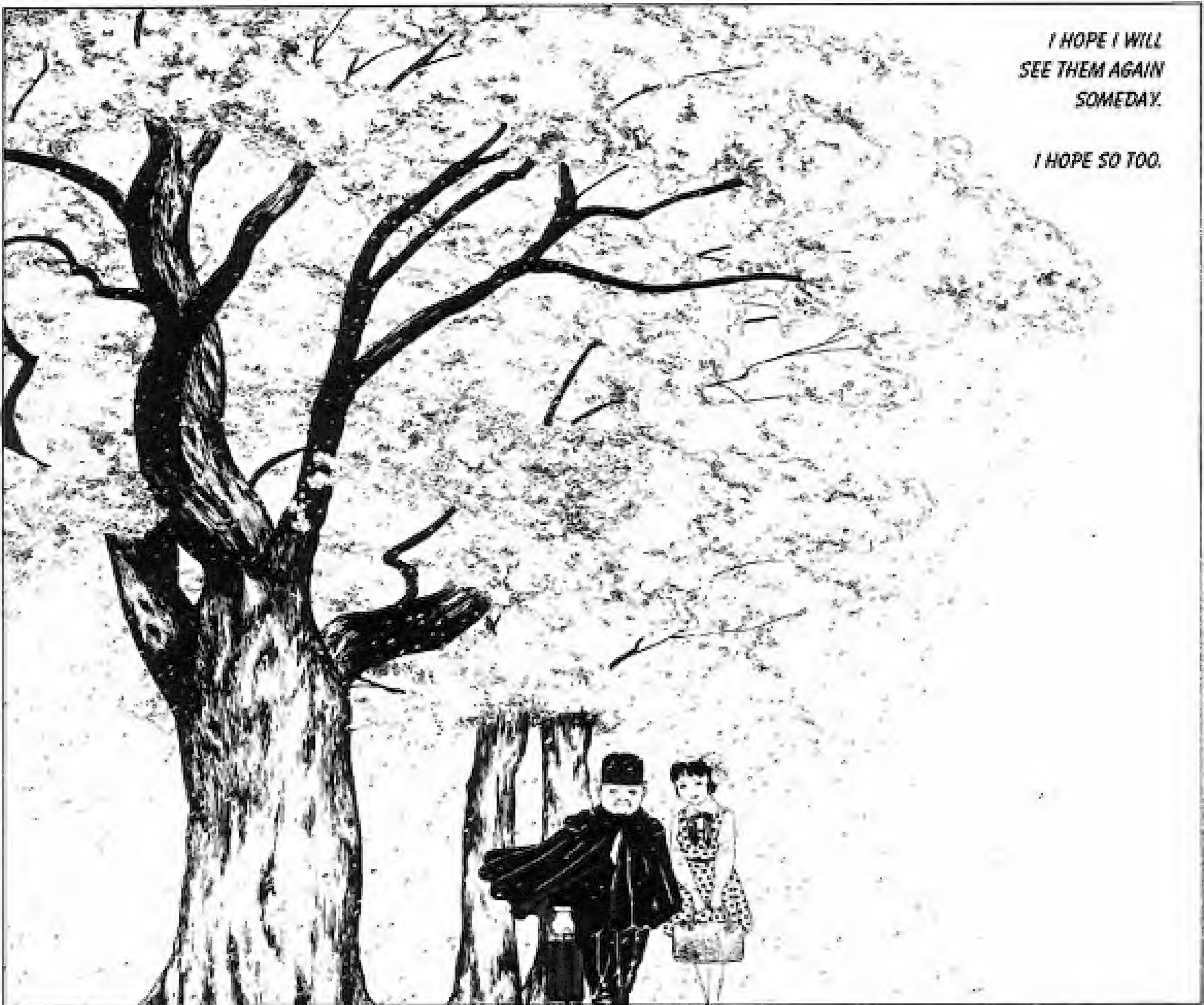
WHAT?!

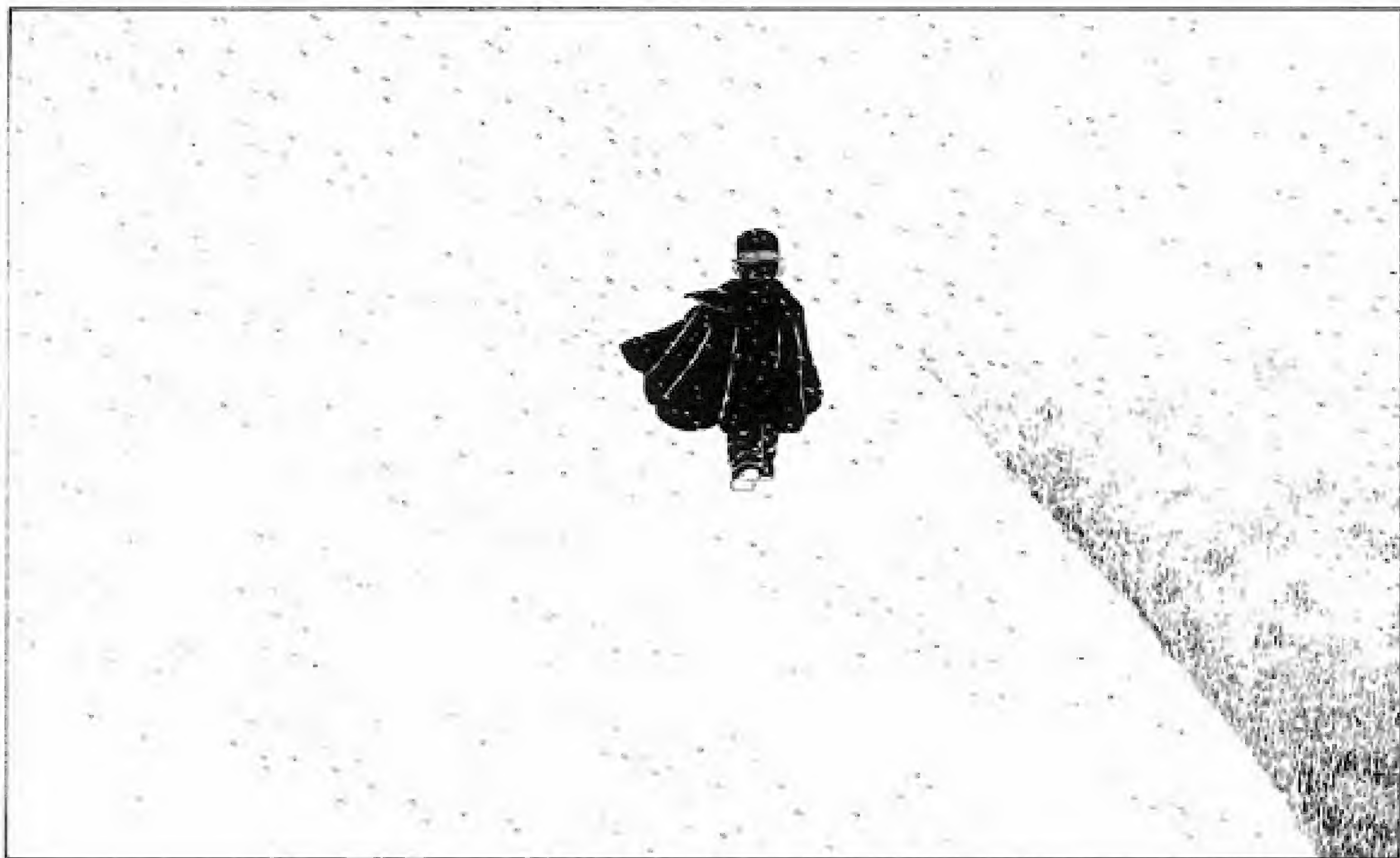
YOU TWO...
YOU'RE LEAVING
ALREADY?



I HOPE I WILL
SEE THEM AGAIN
SOMEDAY.

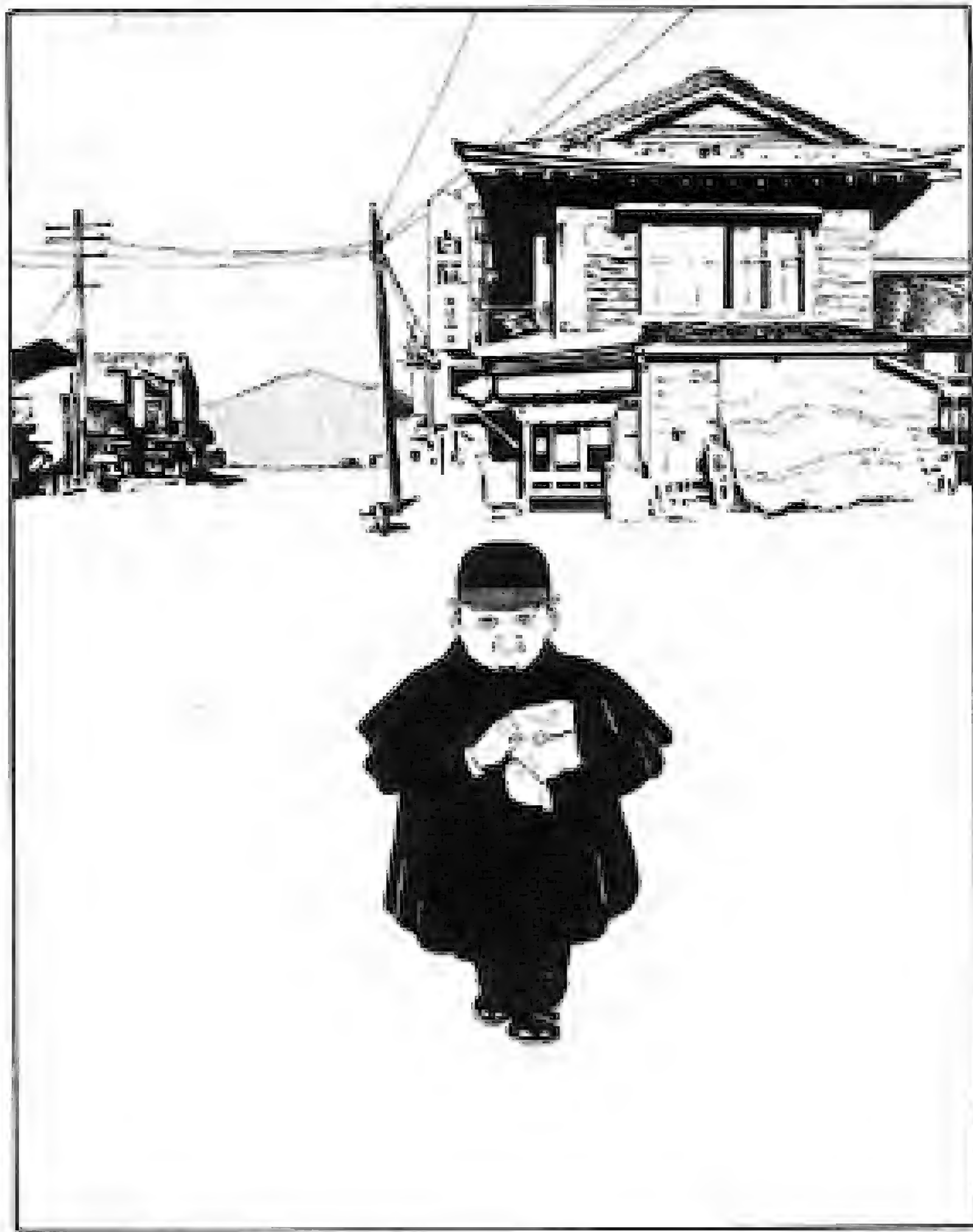
I HOPE SO TOO.

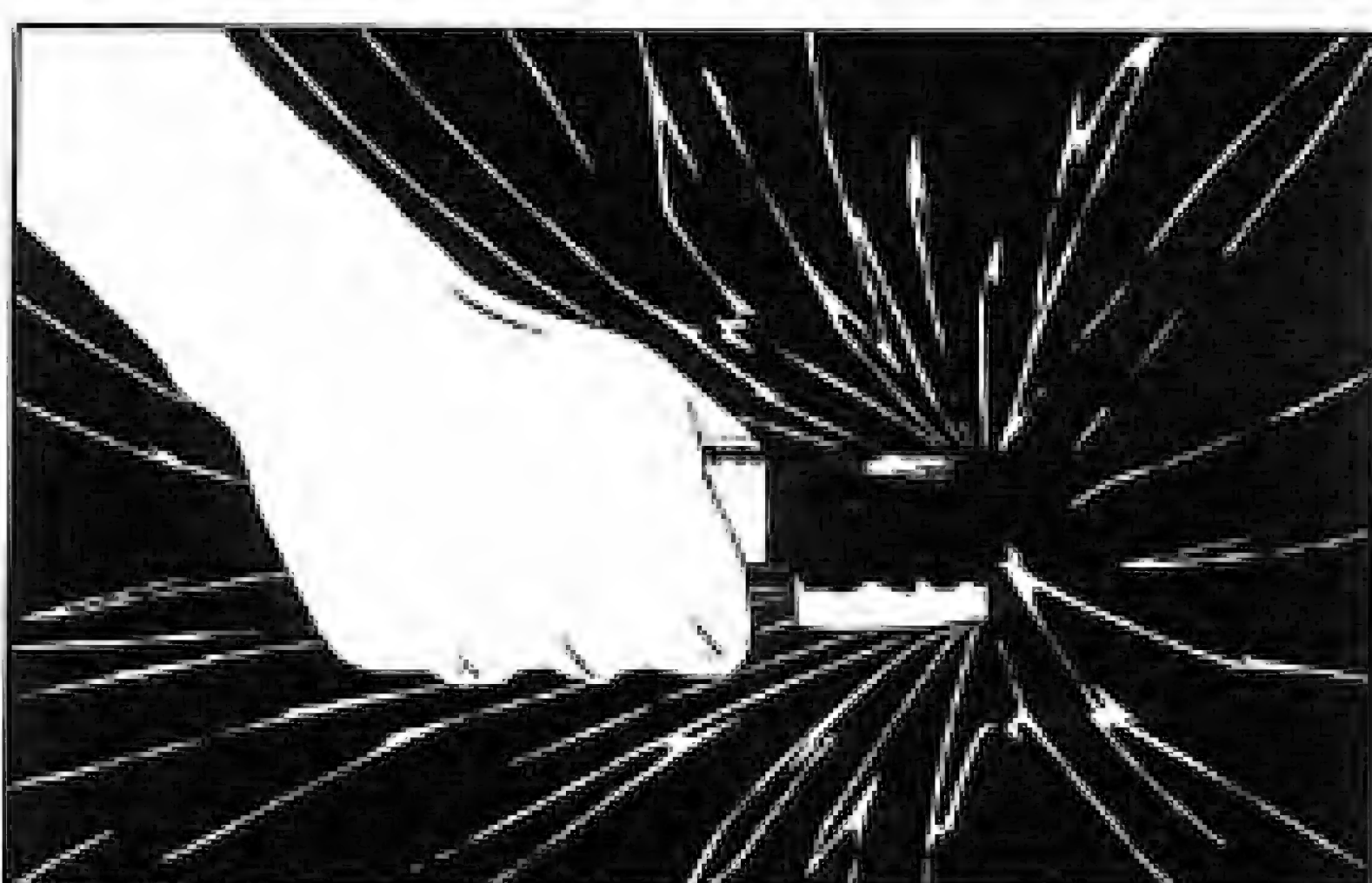
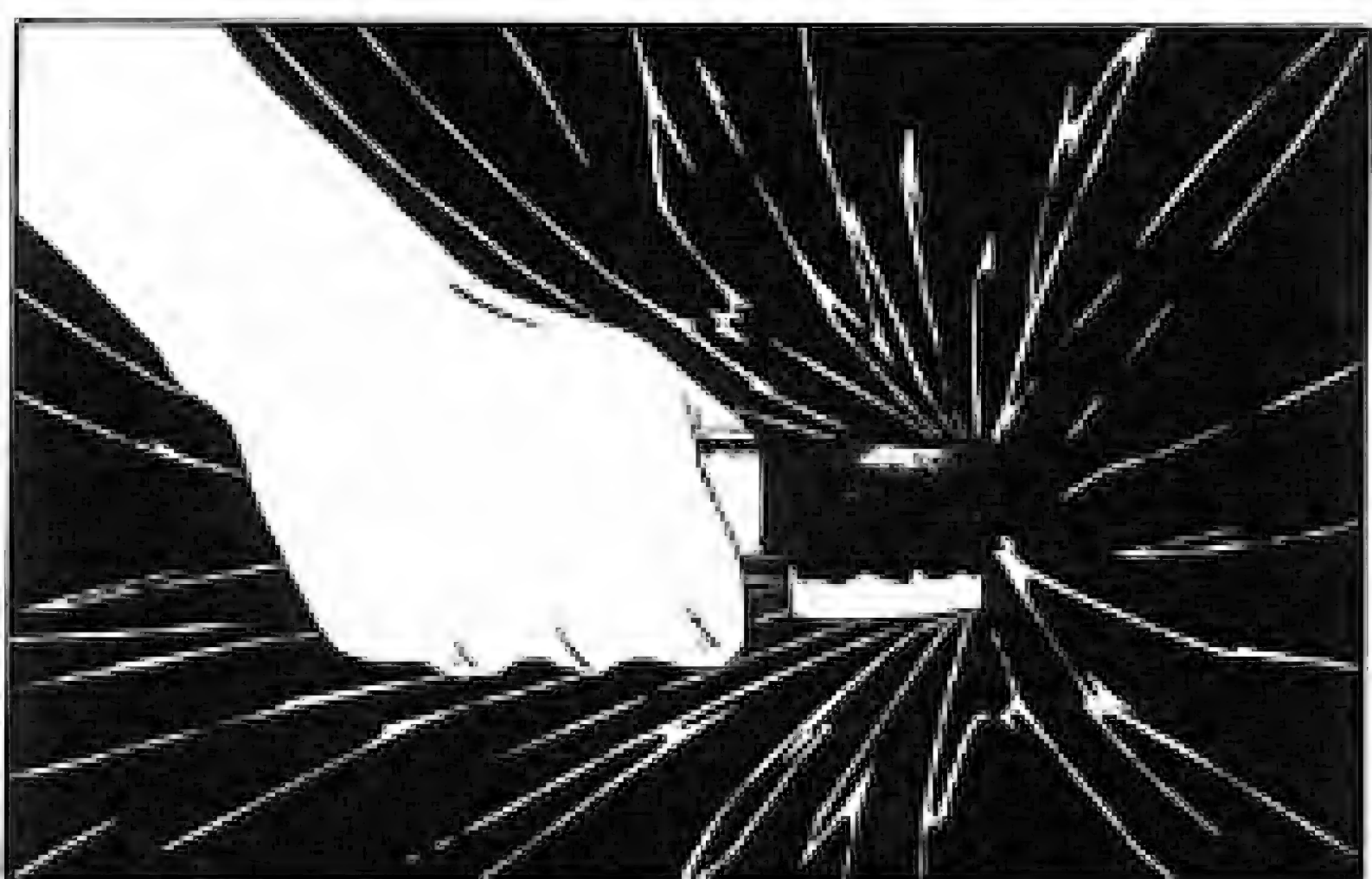
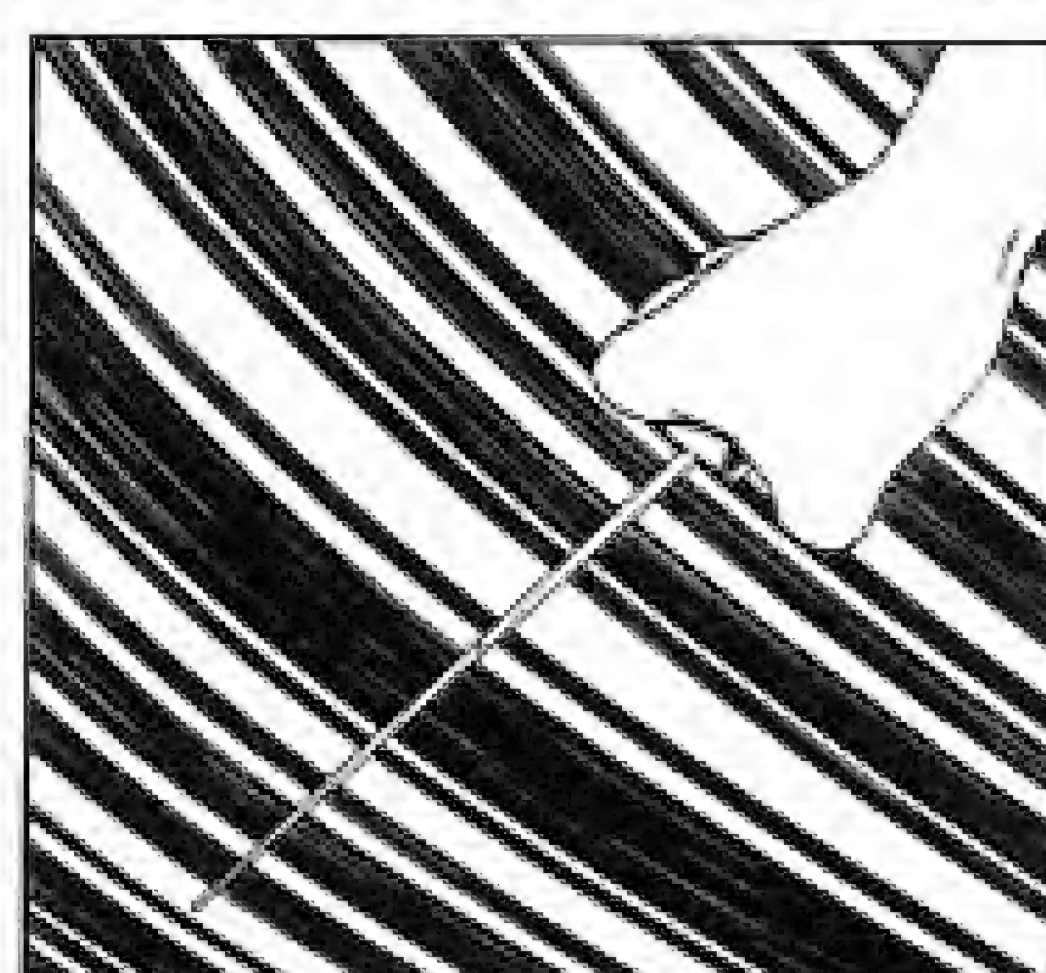
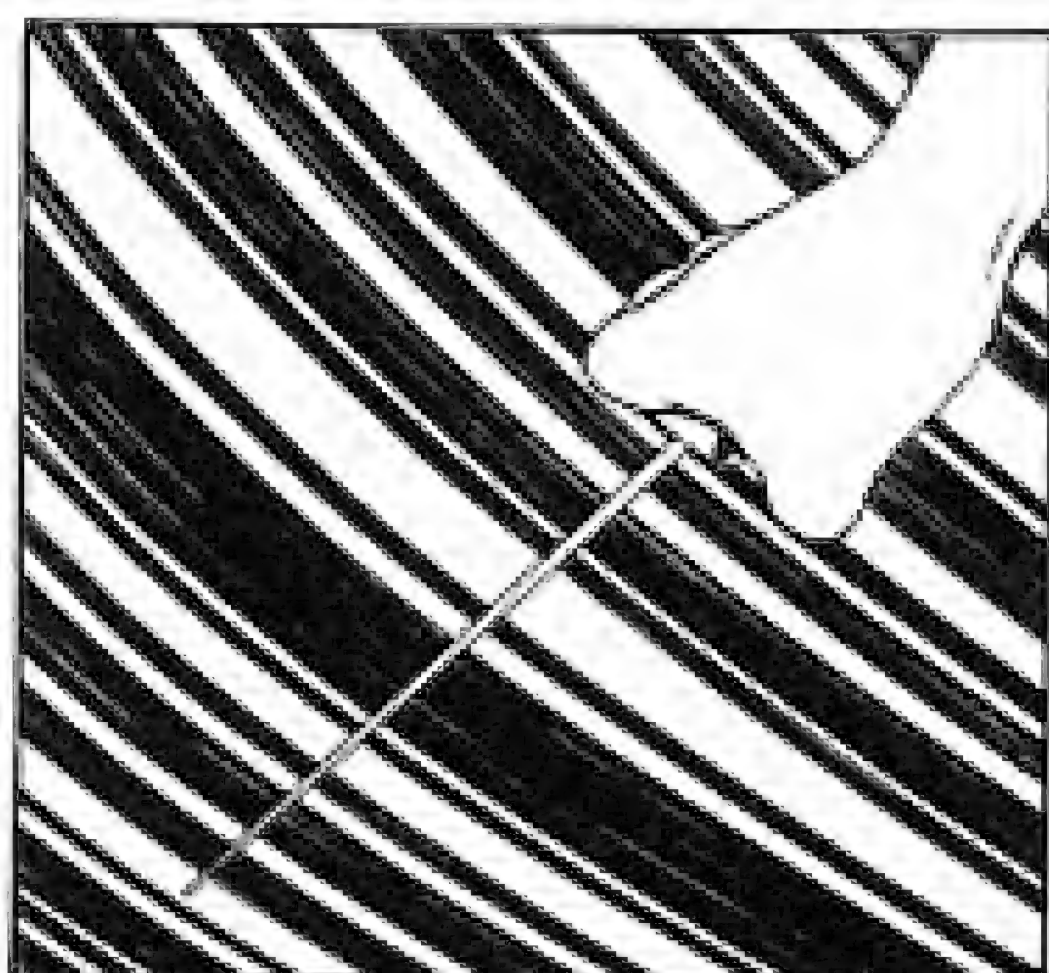
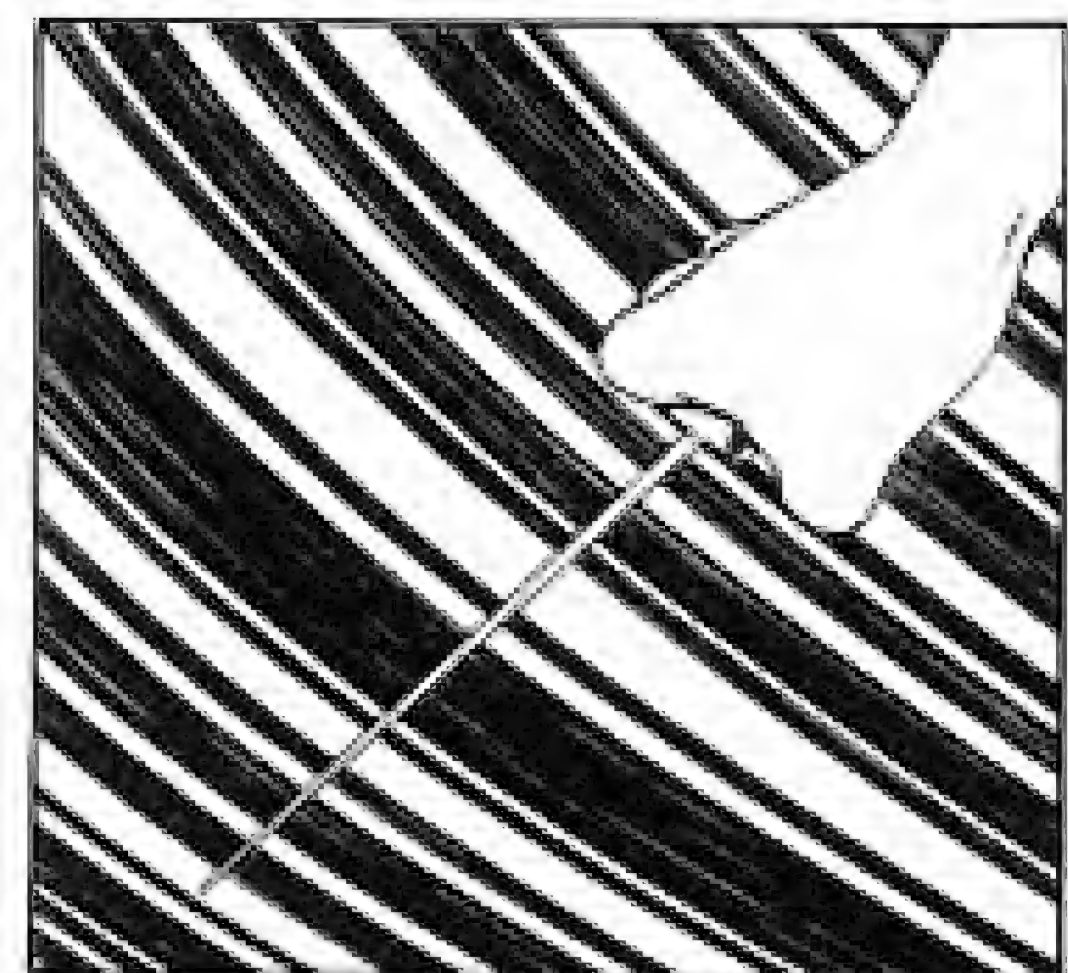


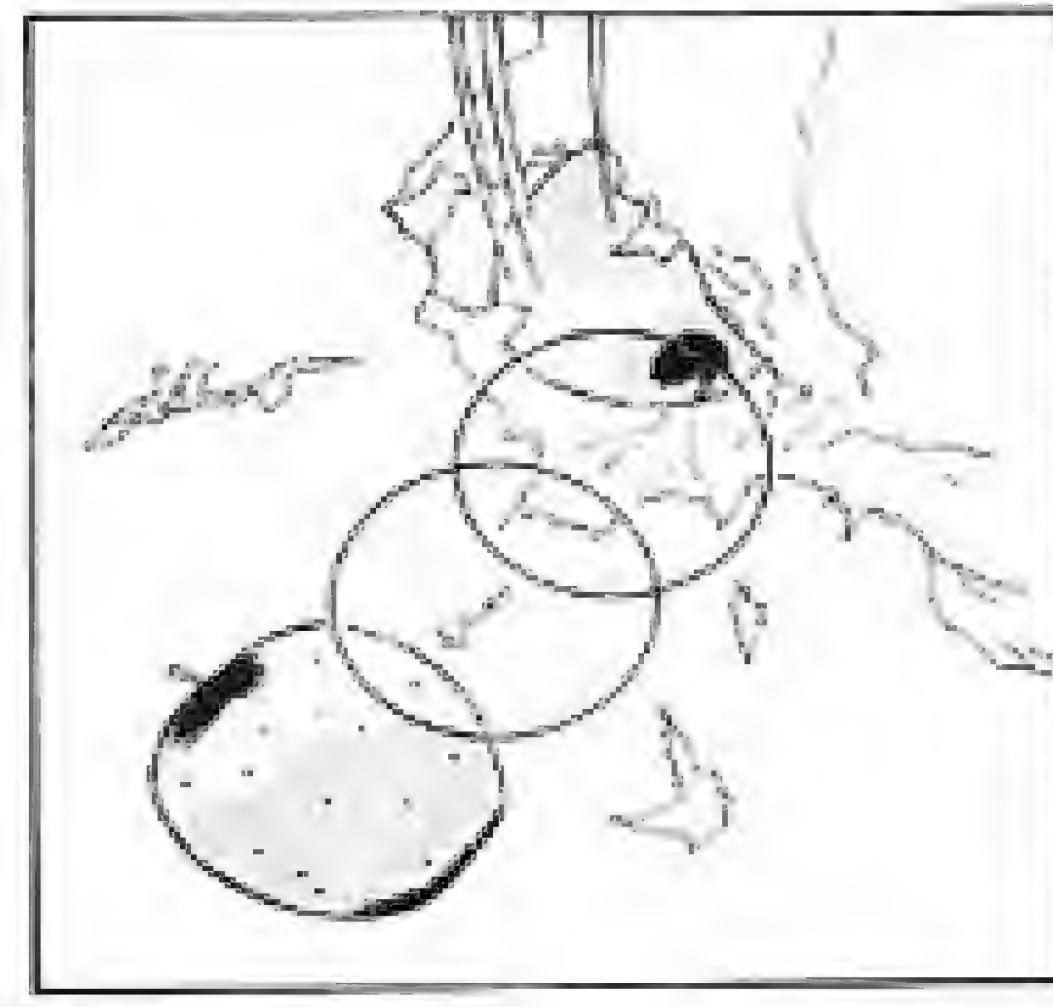
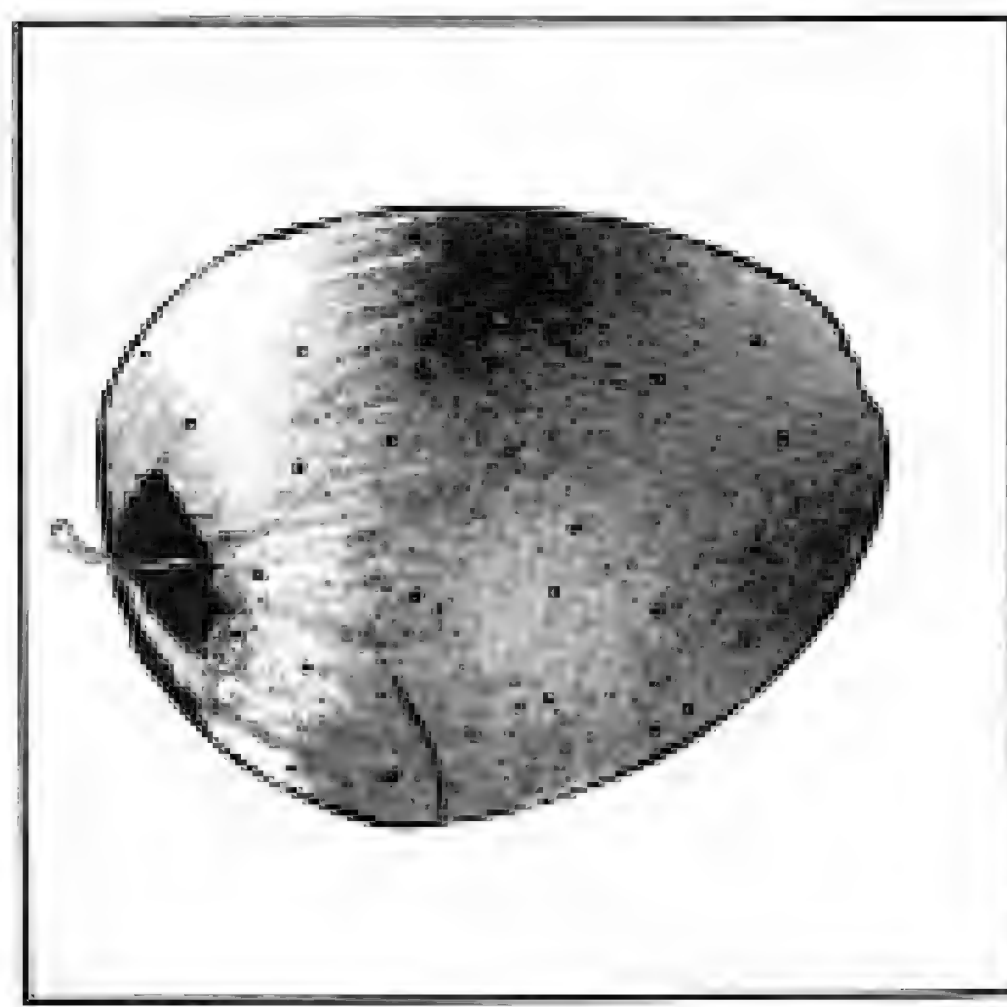


FAREWELL, SWEET CHERRY BLOSSOMS



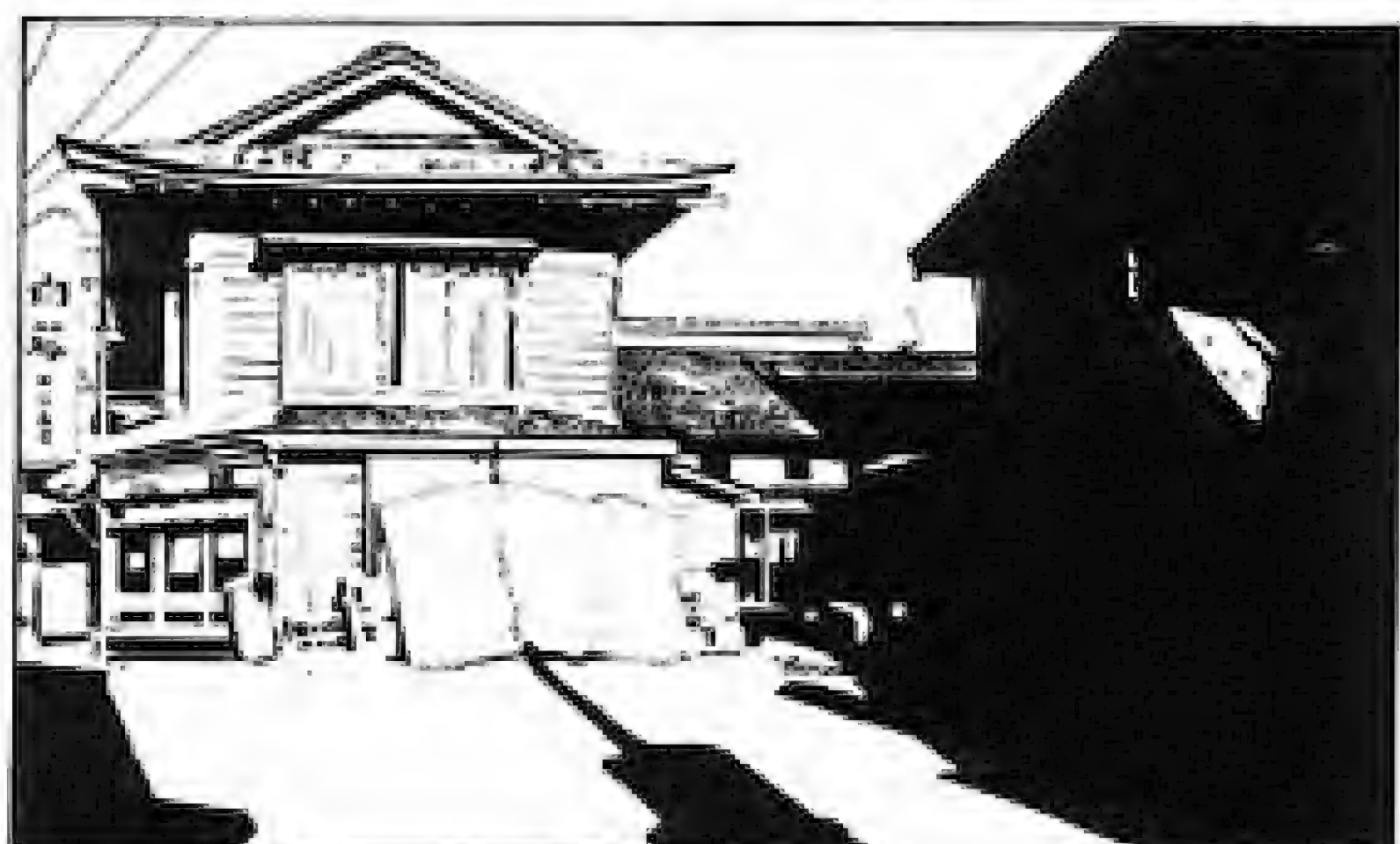


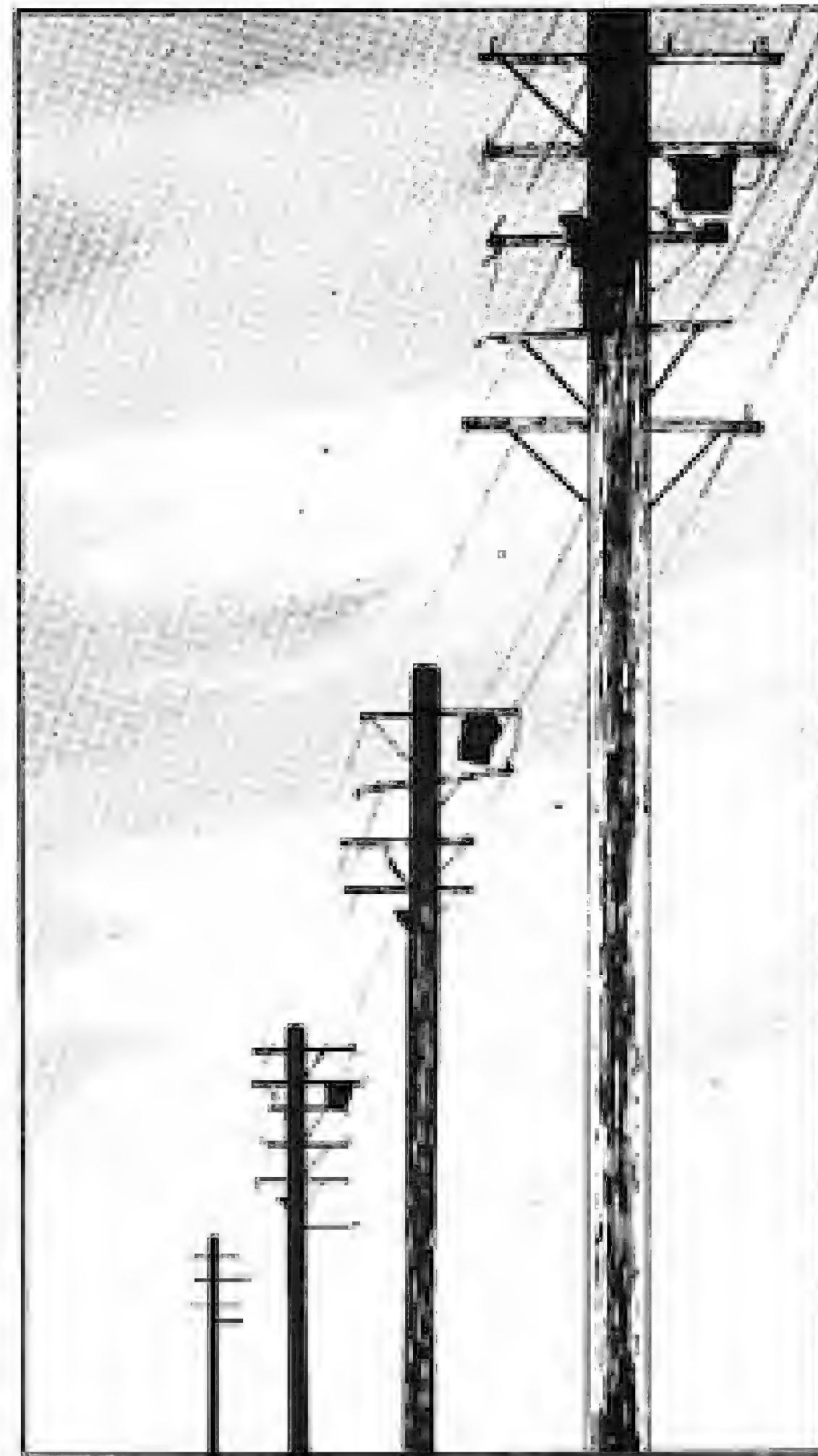












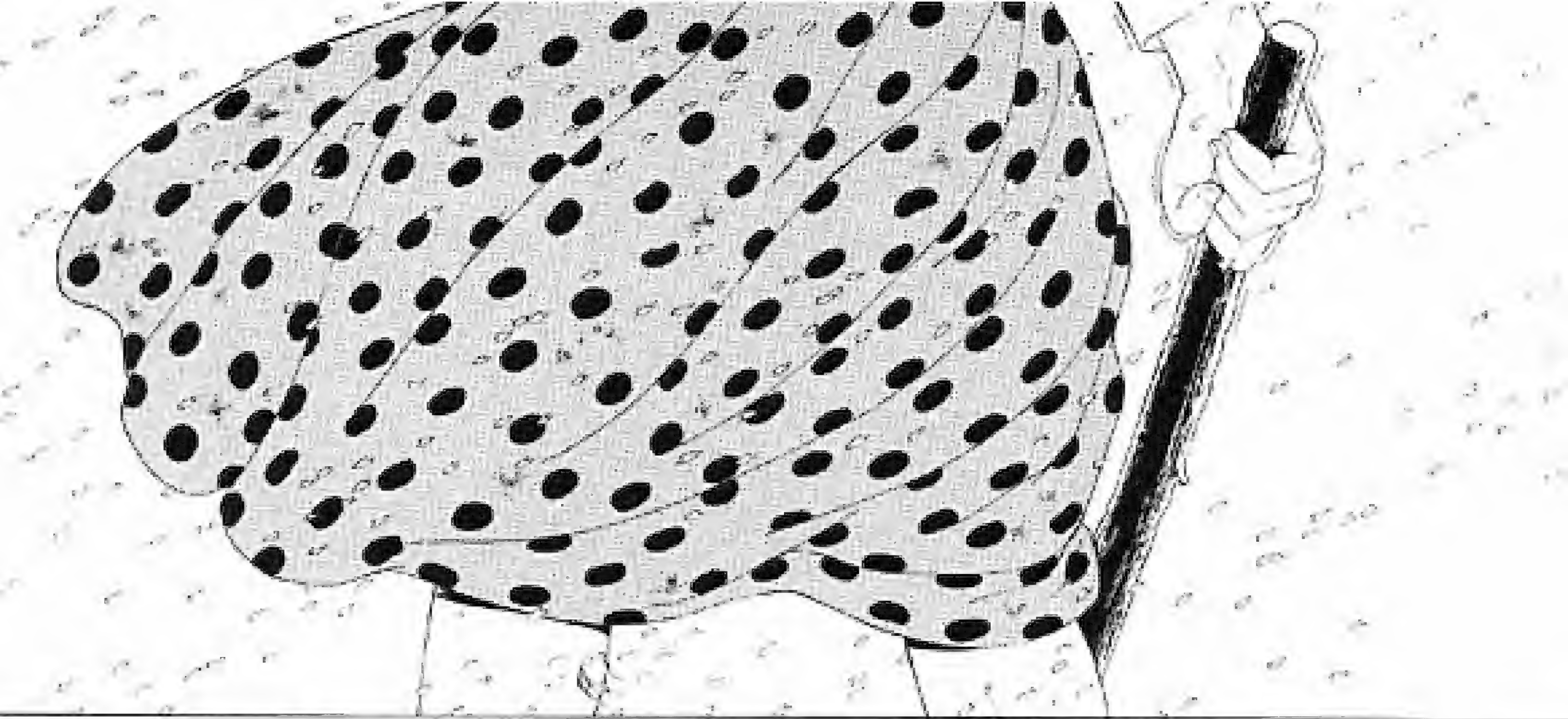
























WAAAAAAHHH!!

う
わ
~~~~~  
ん  
!!



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# NOTE

To preserve Suehiro Maruo's original design, *Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* has been published in the same page order as the Japanese edition.

Japanese is read from right to left—the opposite direction of English—so you'll find the beginning of this book at the back, where English-language books end.



MR. ARASHI'S  
AMAZING  
FREAK SHOW



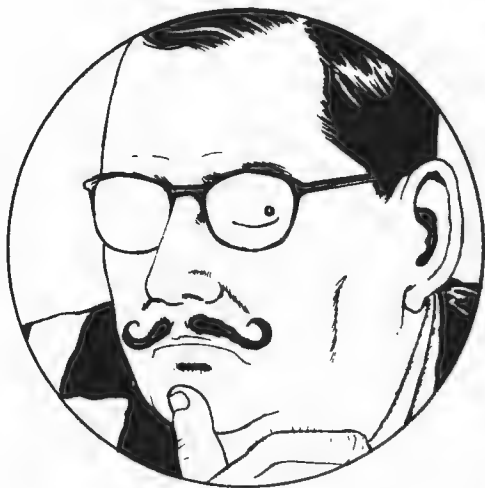
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**MR. ARASHI'S  
AMAZING FREAK SHOW**



# THE CAST



MR. ARASHI



SNAKE WOMAN



THE GIANT



HOHICHI THE HUMAN PRETZEL



IKKA KITA†



MIDORI



MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER



FATHER & MOTHER



THE HUMAN WORM



THE MUMMY MAN



HIBARI MISORA‡



SPOTTED GIRL‡‡



KANABUN THE BOY-GIRL

†1883–1937 RADICAL NATIONALIST

‡POPULAR JAPANESE SINGER

‡‡DOES NOT APPEAR IN STORY.



大入三付  
客留  
SOLD OUT

CHAPTER  
ONE

PATIENCE  
AND  
OBEDIENCE











SLIMY GREEN SNOT!  
MOUNDS OF  
STINKING EARWAX!

SEE THE DIRTIEST TEETH  
IN THE WORLD!  
OOZING STIES!









TELLIKS,  
TELLIKS,  
TELLIKS!



STEP RIGHT UP,  
STEP RIGHT UP!  
SEE THE TERRIFYING TELLIKS!!  
TELLIKS WITH  
THE HIDEOUS BLACK FACE!!



THAT'S WHY  
... WELL...  
TELLI...

AHEM.  
WELL, YES,  
IT'S AN UPSIDE-DOWN  
SKILLET...



THAT'S STUPID—  
THAT'S NOTHING BUT  
AN OLD SKILLET.

SEE  
THE TELLIKS!



OF COURSE NOT.

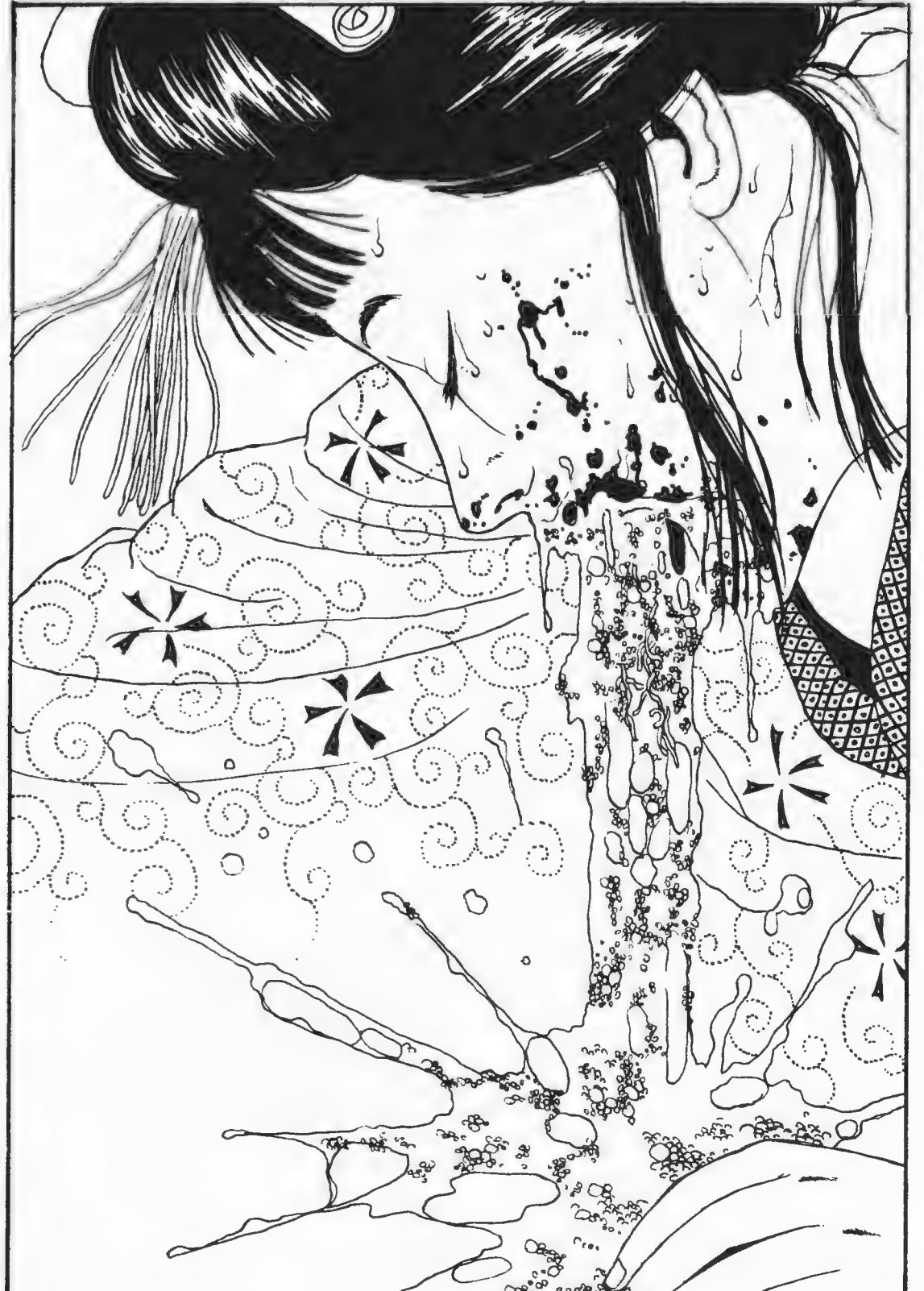
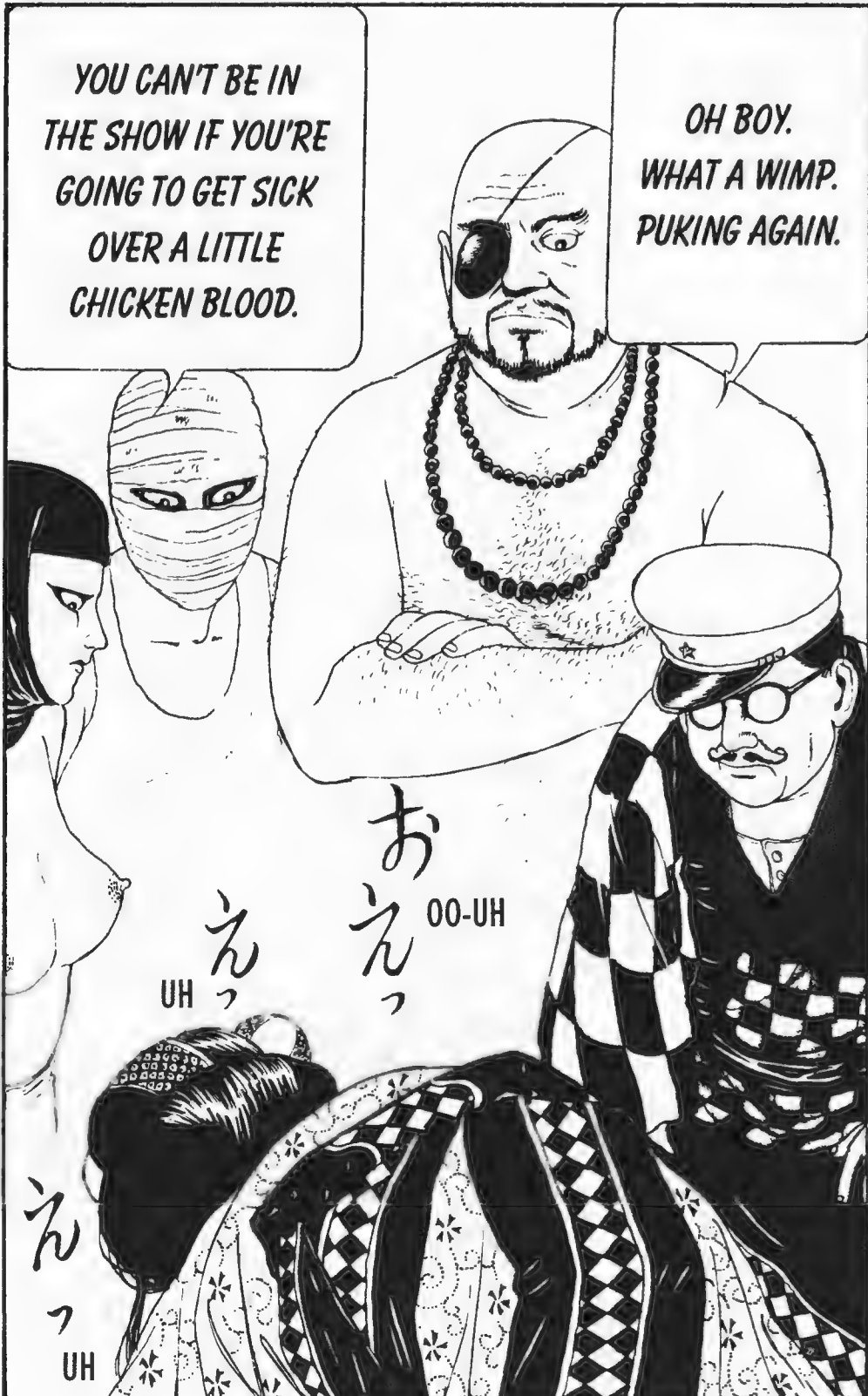
DAMN BRATS!!  
HEY, DID YOU  
LITTLE STINKERS  
PAY FOR THE SHOW?



NYA, I GET IT.  
SOMEBODY  
CHUCKED UP  
ON THAT PIECE  
OF WOOD.

AND NOW—  
A WOODCHUCK!!









Dear Madame Cassandra:

I am twelve years old. Three years ago my father went away and never came back home. So my mother and I were alone, but then she died and I didn't have any place to live



anymore. One day I met the owner of a freak show and he tricked me and ever since then I've been forced to work in his awful show. My life is so horrible, sometimes I wish that I could die. I can't go to school. I can't sleep at night, I'm so worried. What will become of me? What should I do?















OOH, YOU HAVE  
A NICE BODY  
AND A NICE  
LITTLE PETER  
TOO!

I'M WOMAN  
ENOUGH FOR  
BOTH OF YOU.



あつあつ  
あつあつ  
AH OOO  
AH



HA HA HA.  
HEY, MIDORI'S  
WATCHING.

COME HERE,  
MIDORI.

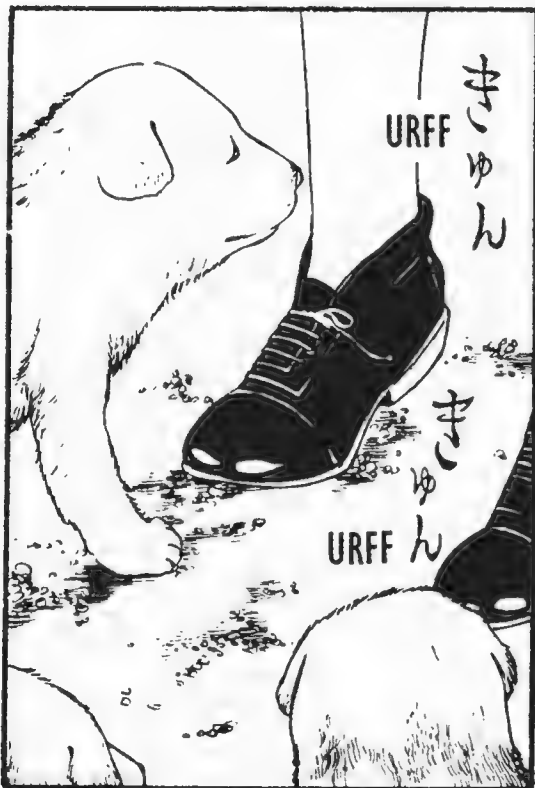
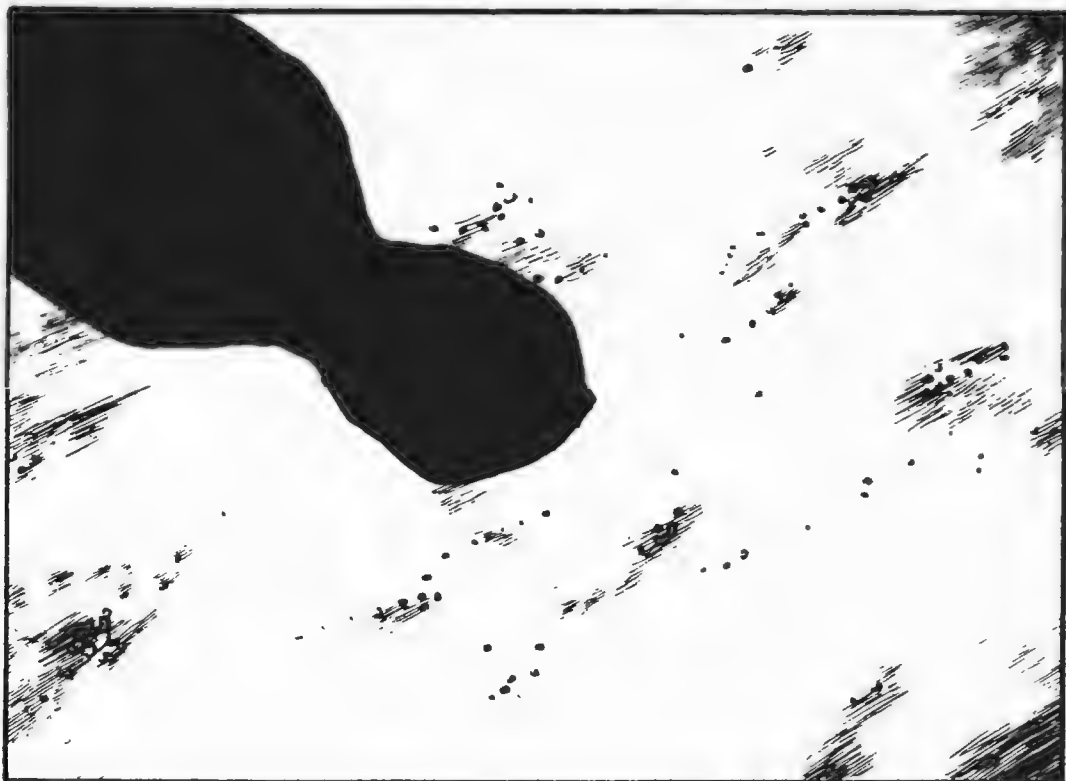
CUT THE CRAP.  
SHE'S JUST  
A BABY. SHE'S  
HARDLY OUT  
OF DIAPERS.



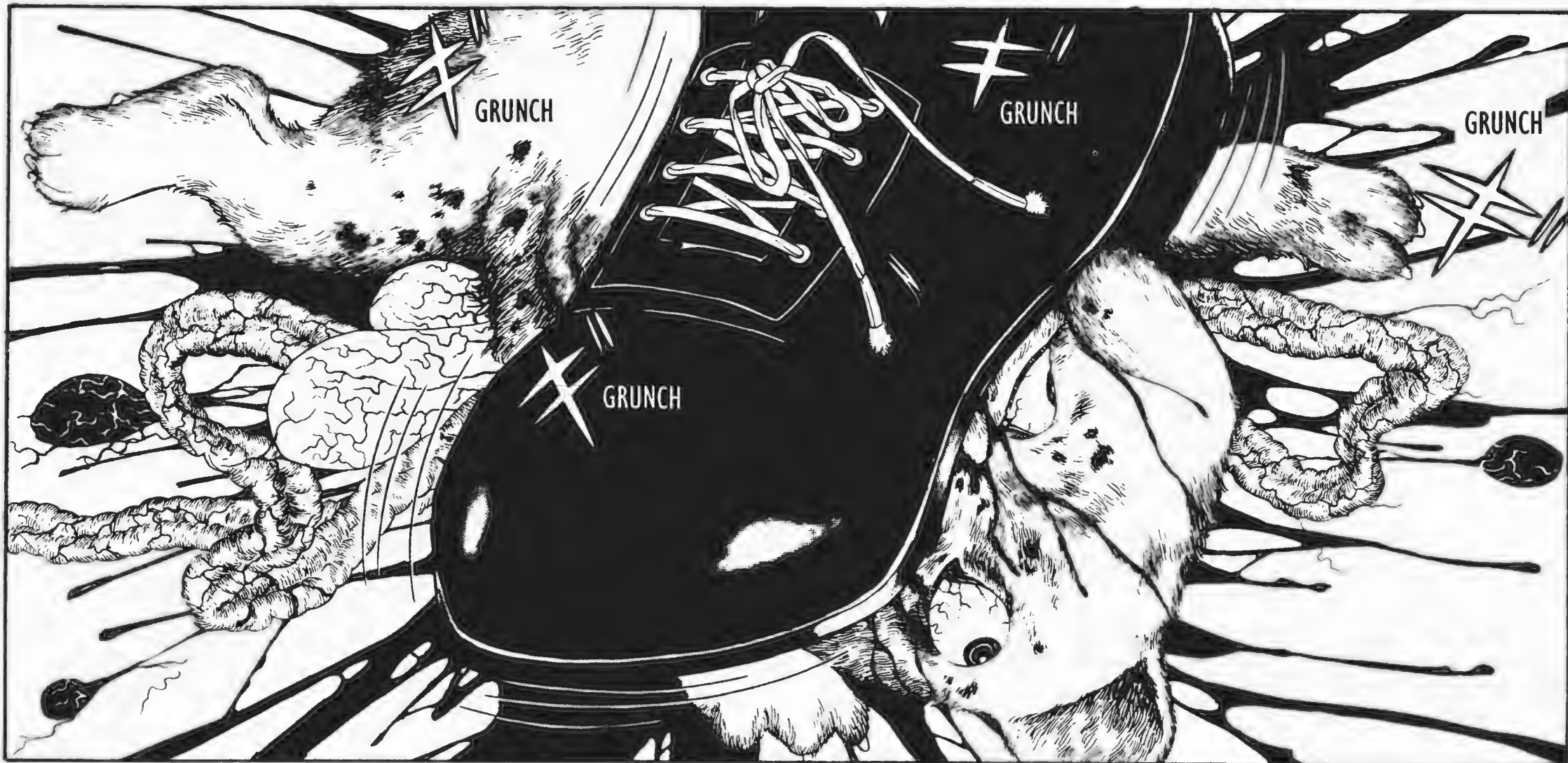




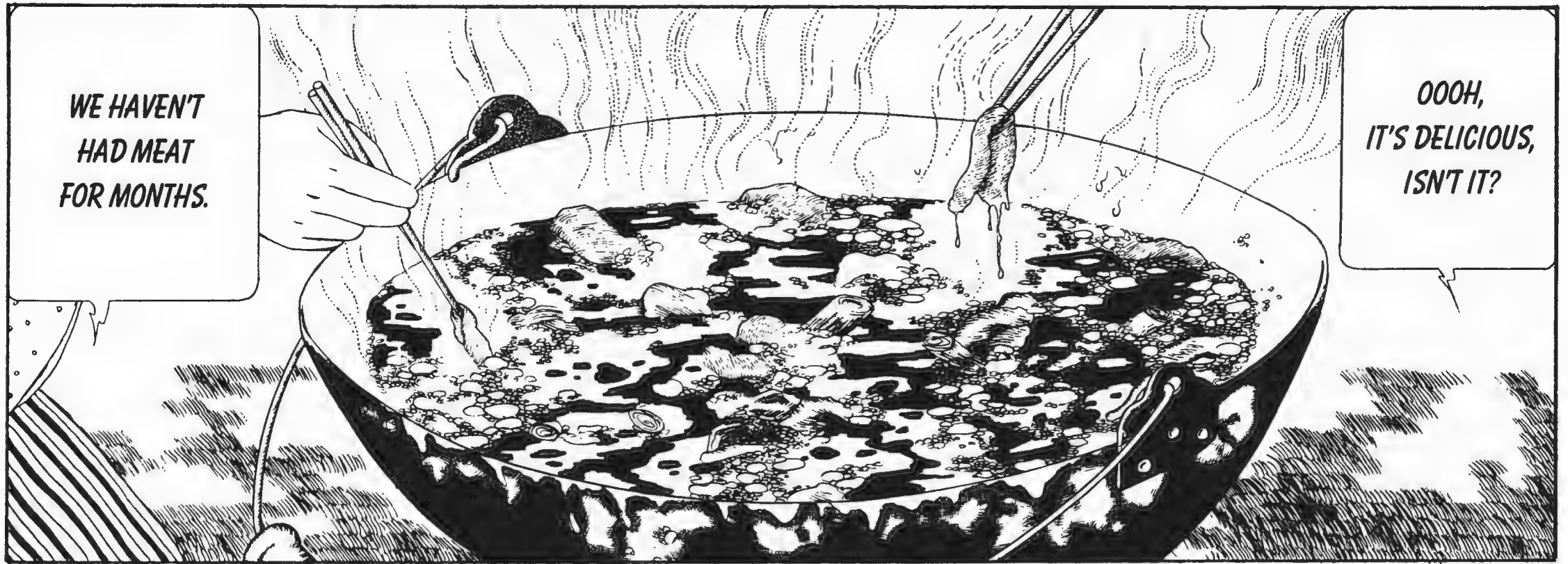














*MY LITTLE DOGGIES!*  
*MY LITTLE DOGGIES!*



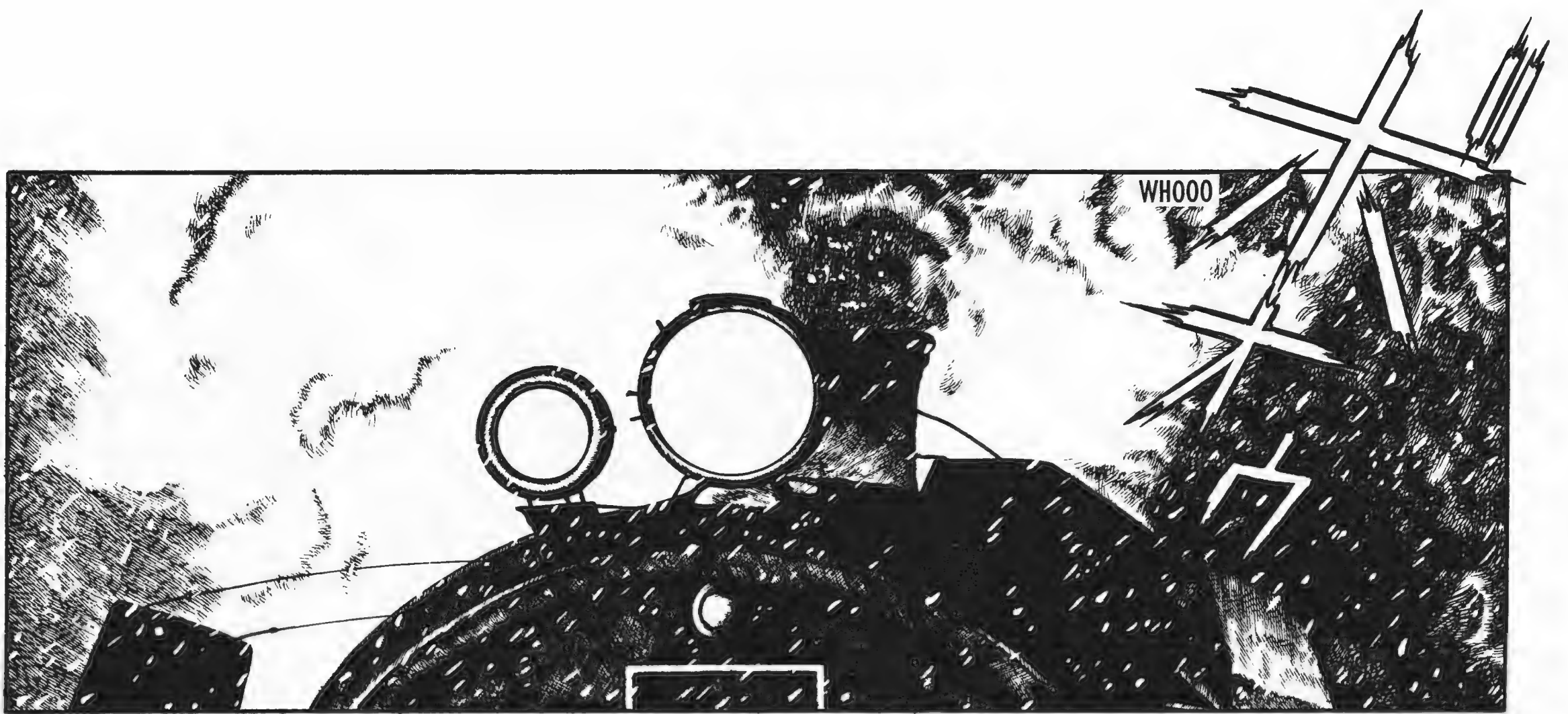


CHAPTER  
TWO

THERE'S  
NO PLACE  
LIKE  
HOME











YOU THINK  
THEY'D TAKE  
YOU BACK  
TO TOKYO?

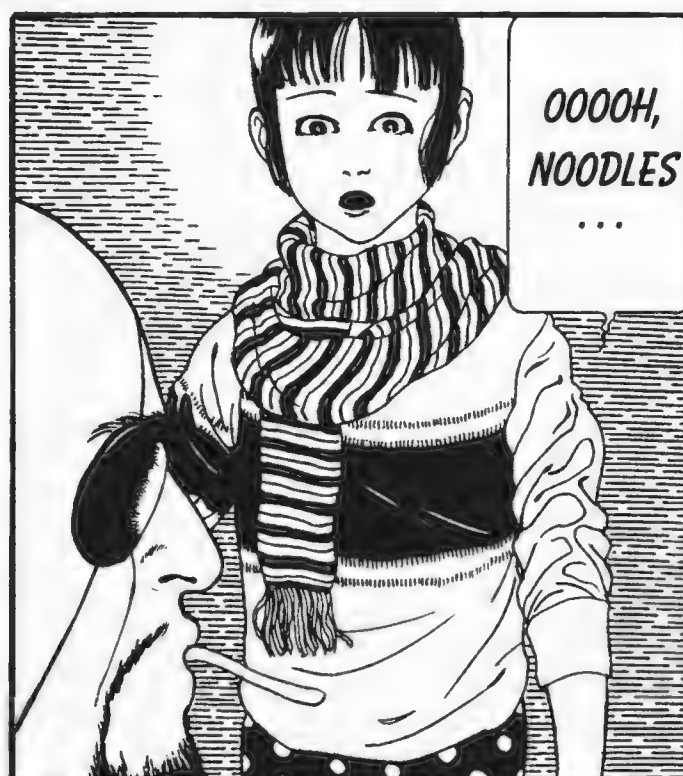
ALL YOU DO  
IS HANG  
AROUND  
WATCHING  
THE TRAINS.



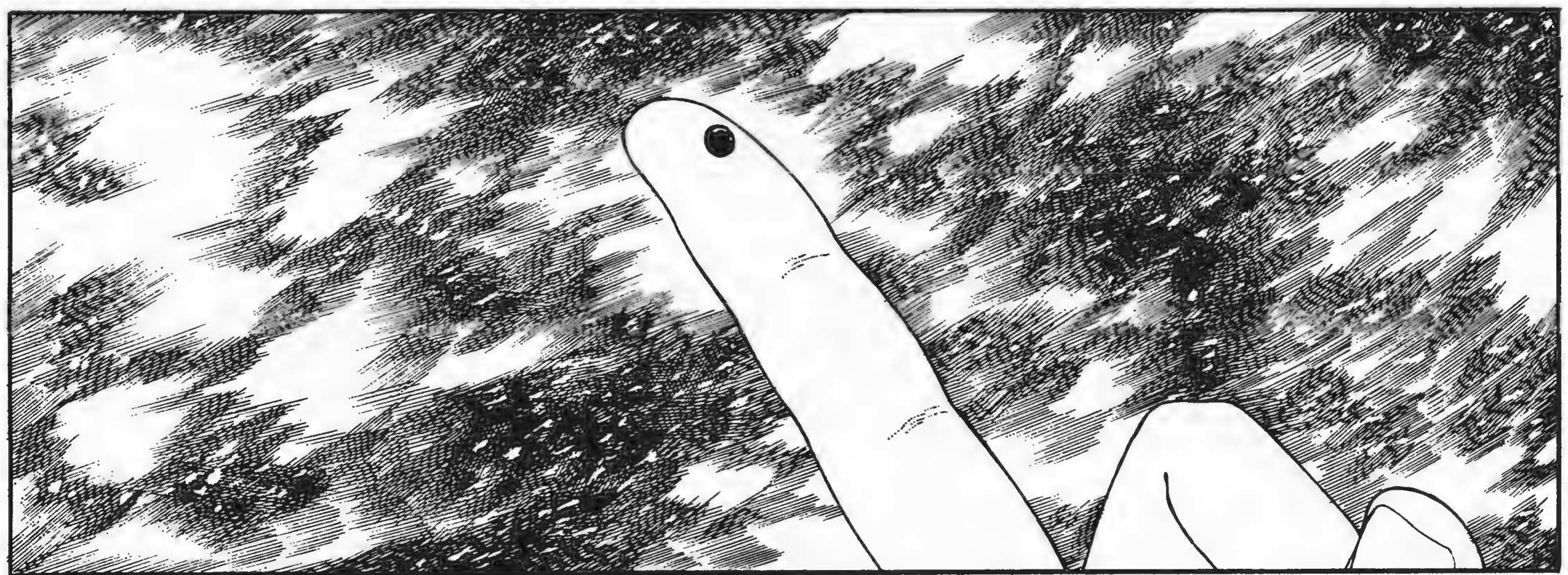
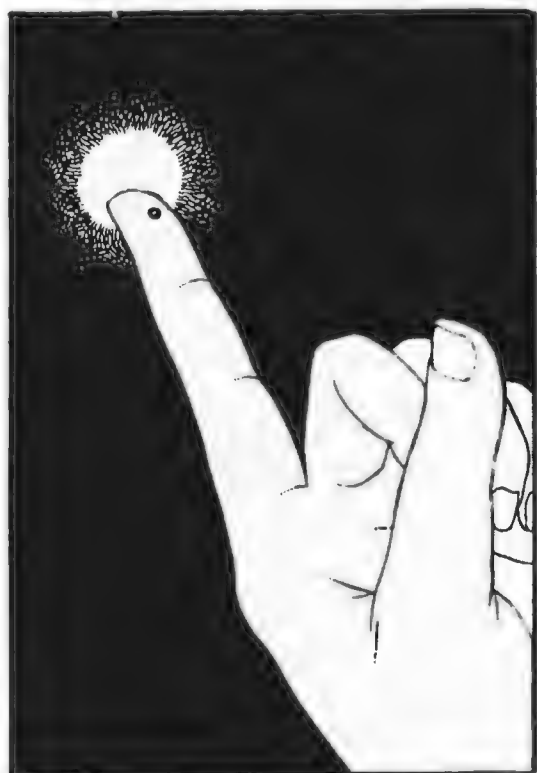
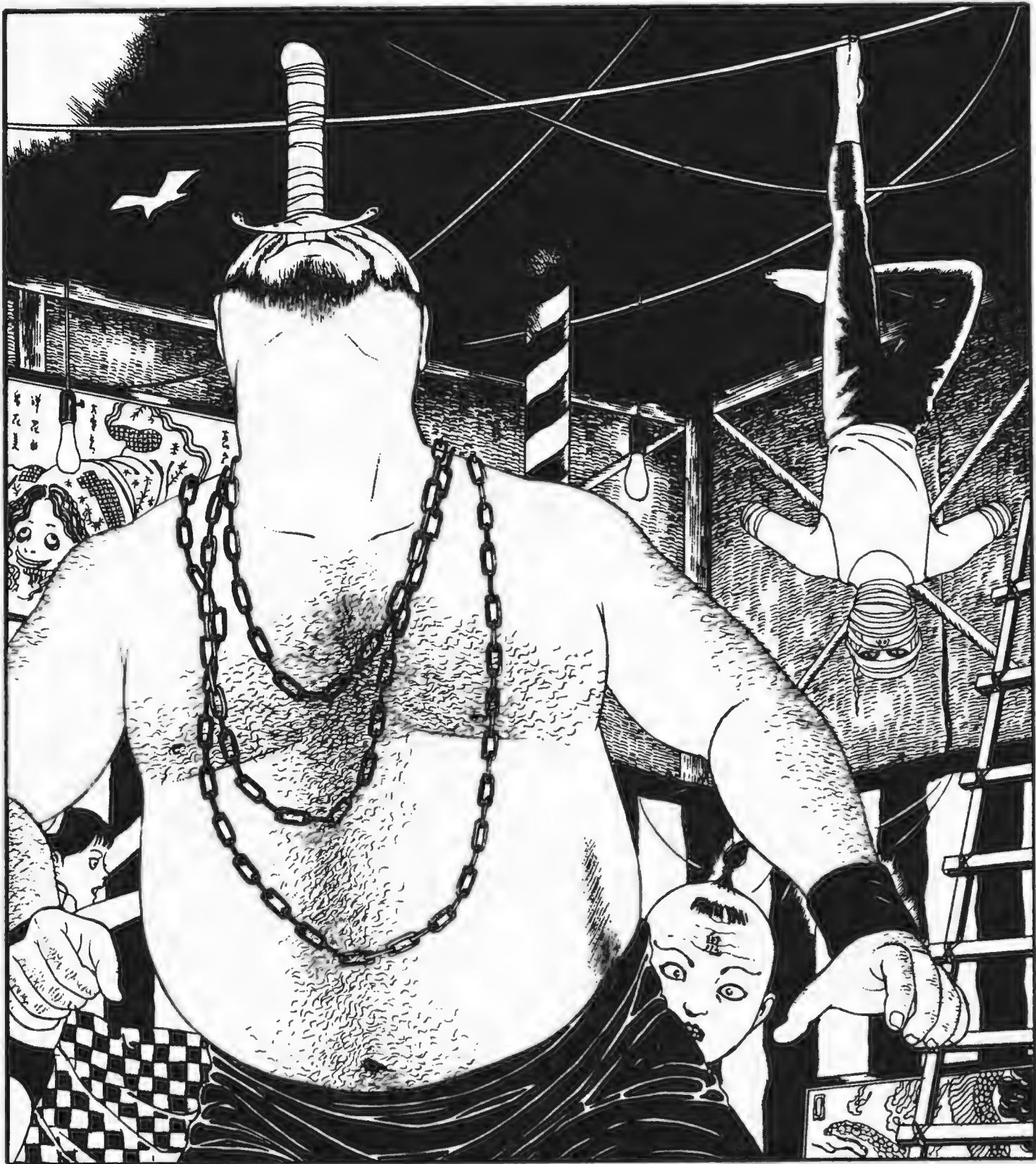




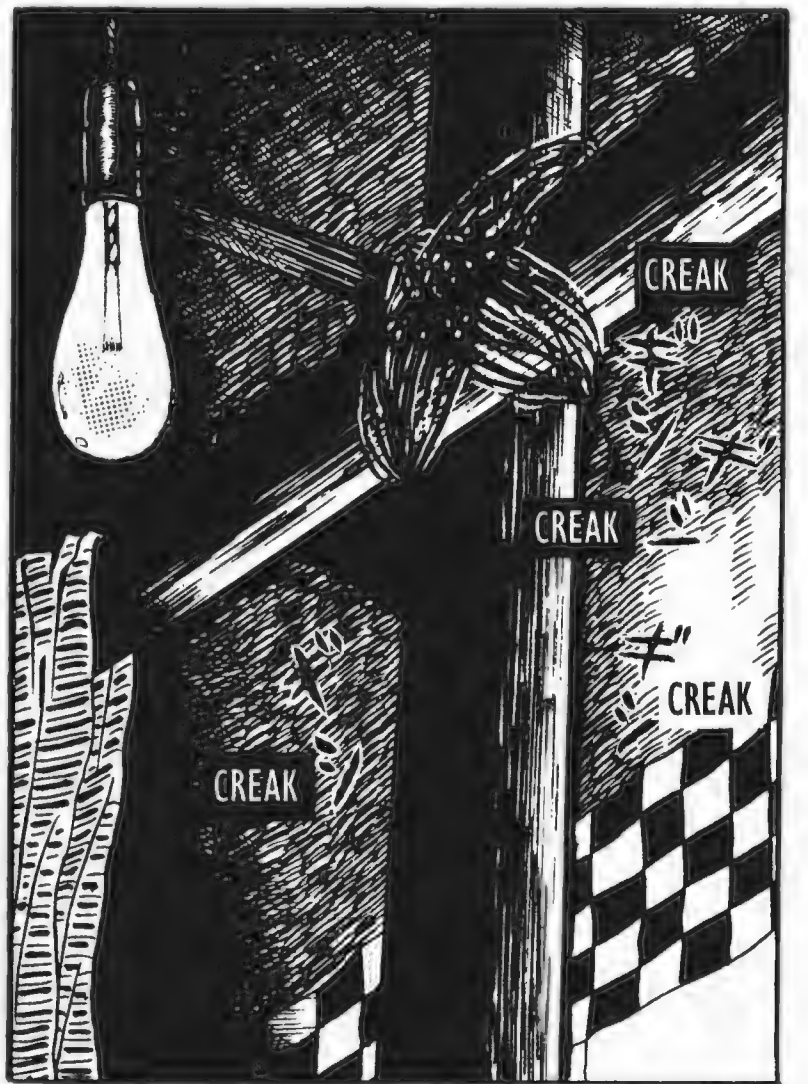
















NO!  
GO AWAY!!

AREN'T  
YOU COLD  
ALL BY  
YOURSELF?

WHY DON'T YOU  
SLEEP WITH  
THE REST OF US?



IT'S TOO COLD.  
WE COULD  
STAY WARM  
TOGETHER.

I CAN'T  
SLEEP  
EITHER.



YIPES!

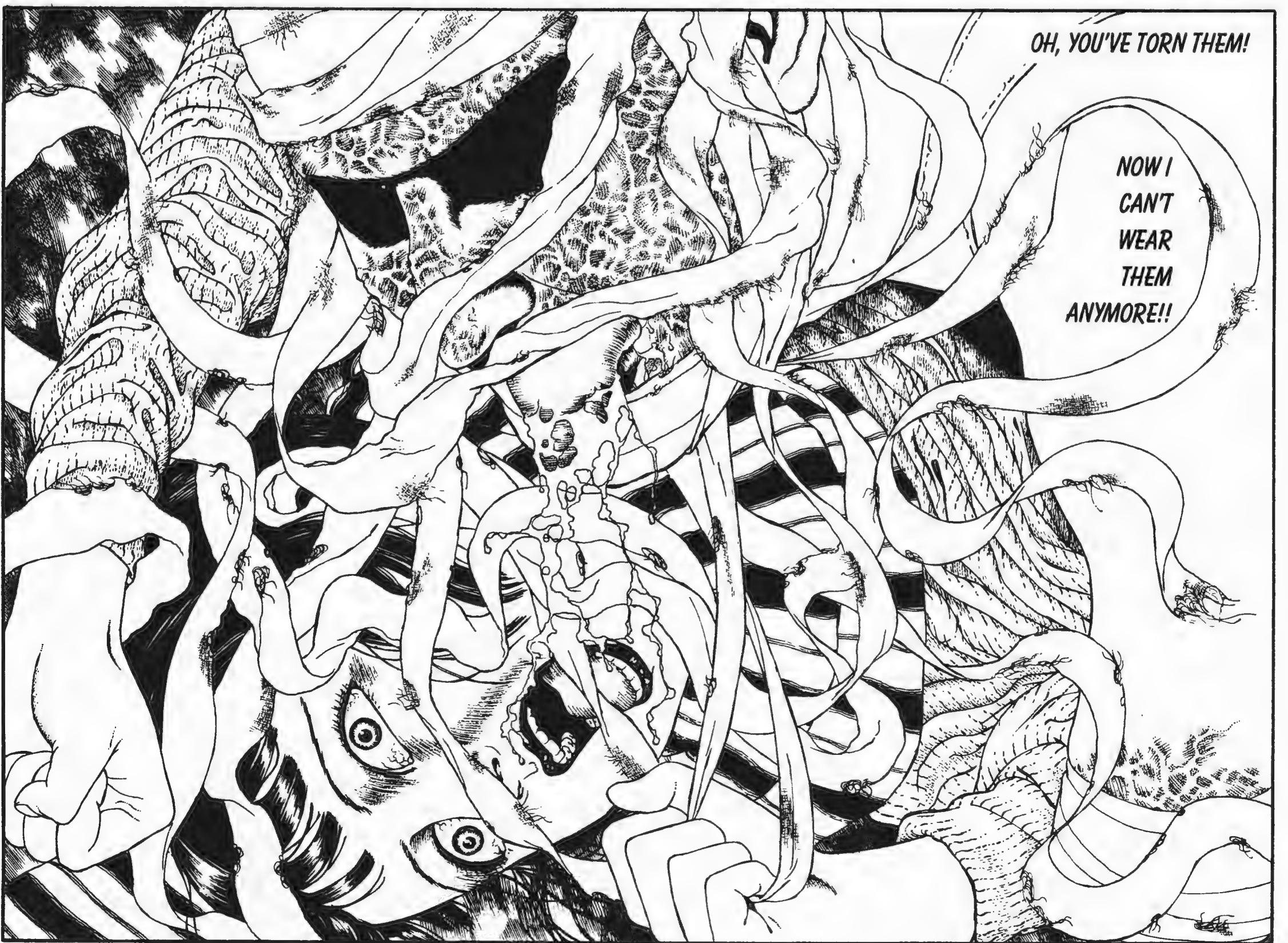


OH, COME ON. WHAT  
ARE YOU TALKING  
ABOUT? YOU'VE BEEN  
LAID BEFORE,  
I KNOW IT.

GET AWAY  
FROM ME!

YOU SMELL  
ROTTEN!  
I HATE YOU!

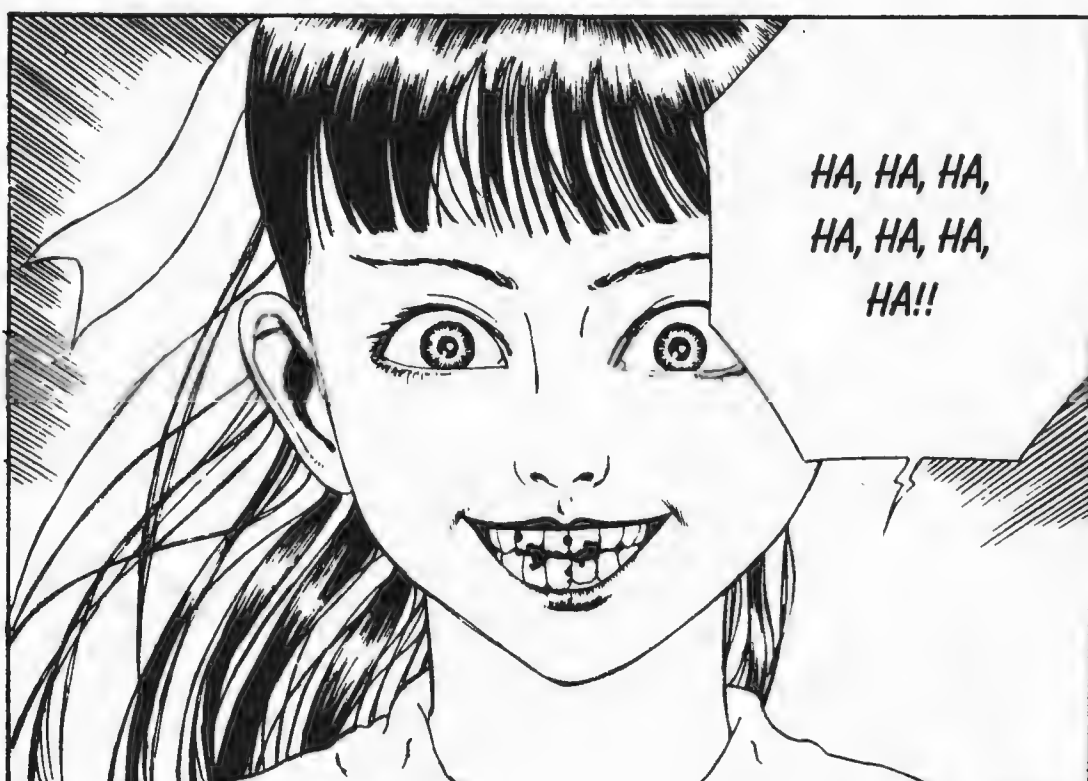
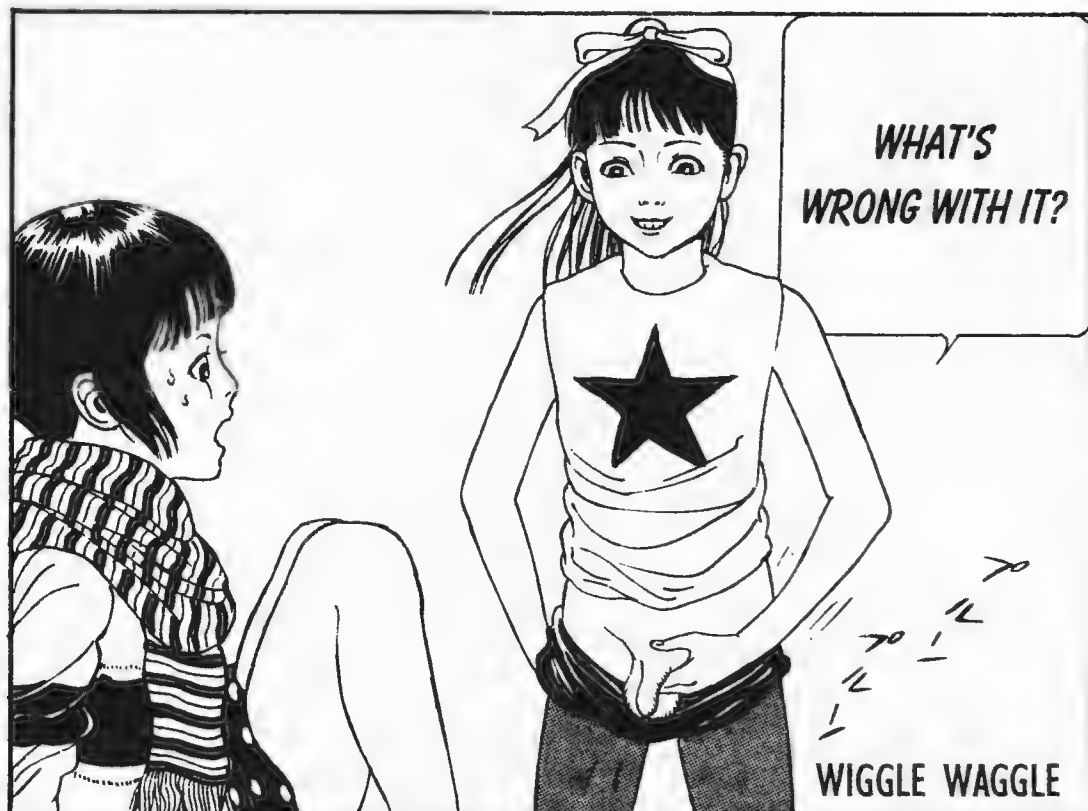




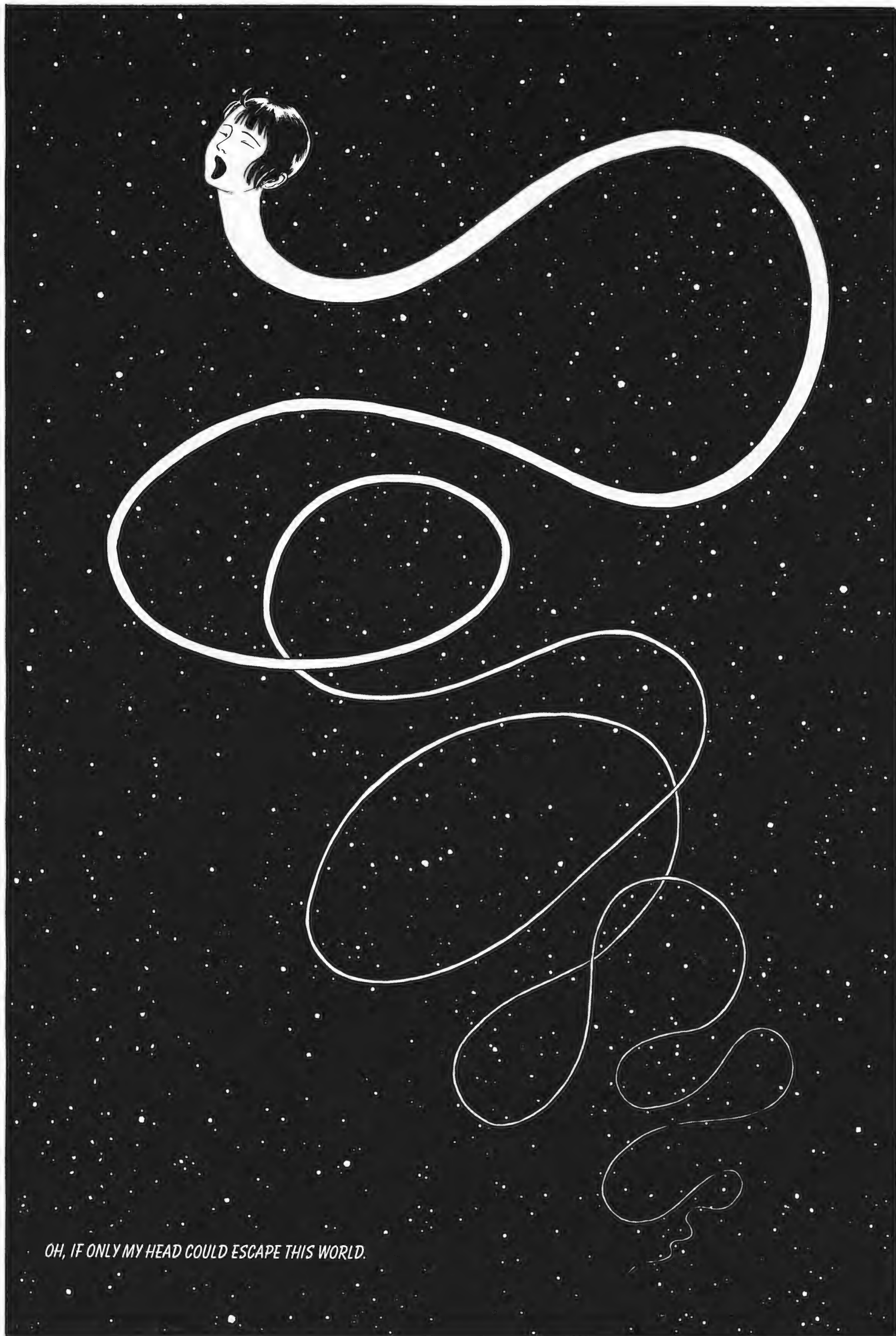












*OH, IF ONLY MY HEAD COULD ESCAPE THIS WORLD.*





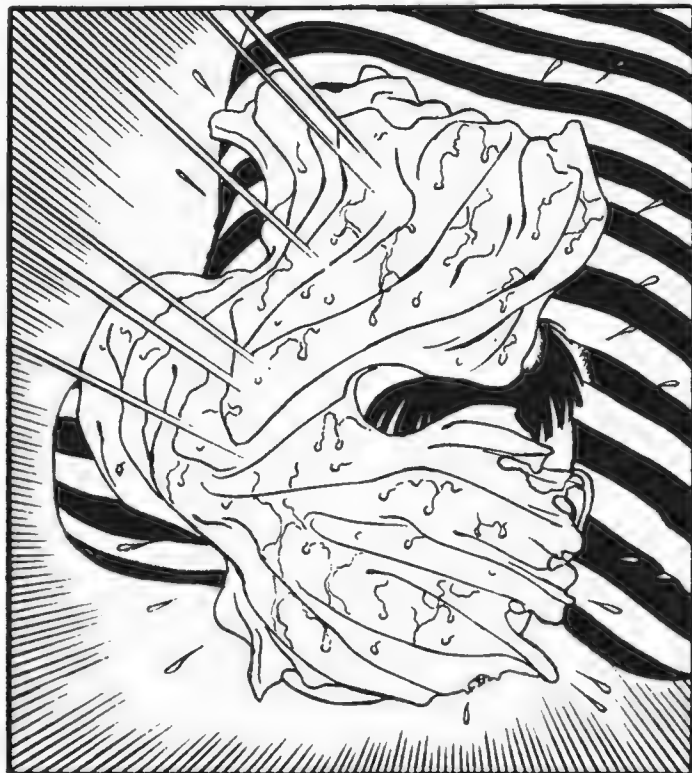




MIDORI,  
AFTER YOU GIVE  
HOHICHI A BATH,  
GIVE ME ONE TOO.



MONSTERS!!



HURRY UP,  
IT'S COLD!



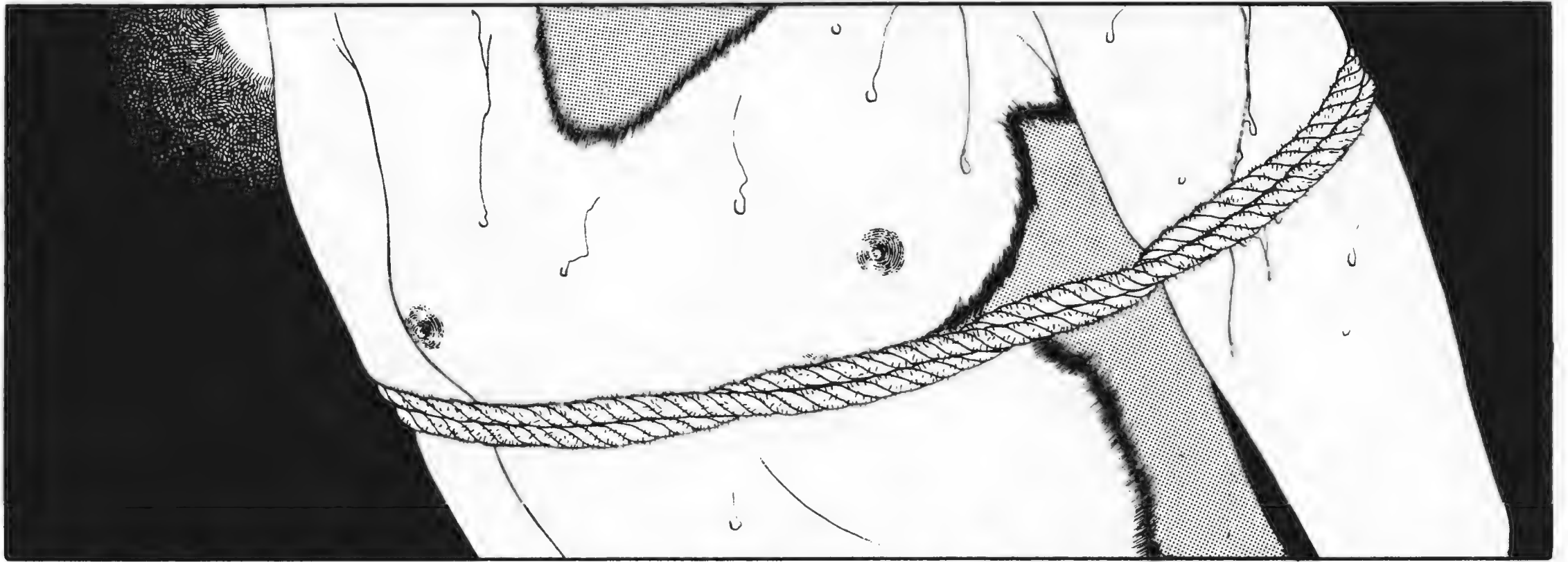
MONSTERS  
MONSTERS  
MONSTERS!!

MONSTERS!!  
MONSTERS!!











**CHAPTER  
THREE**

**OUT OF  
THE  
BLUE**

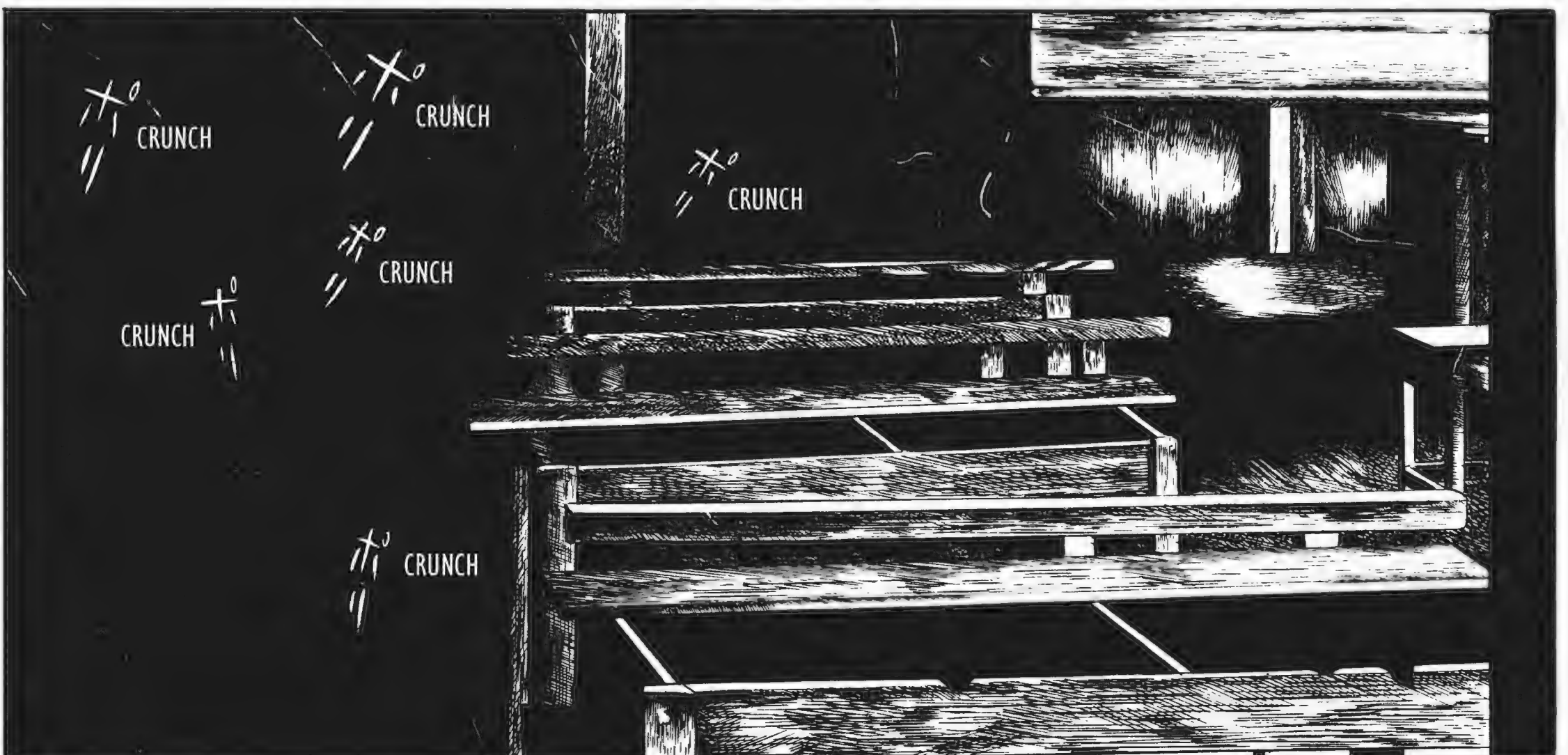
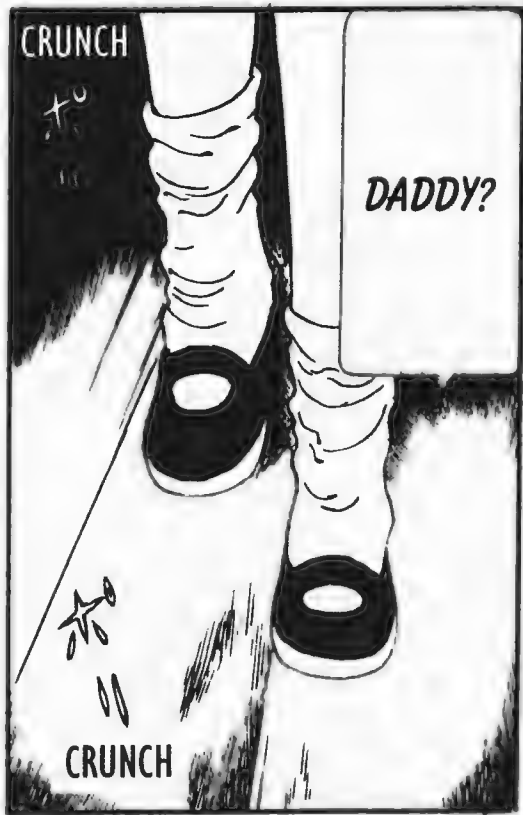
**YIPES!**











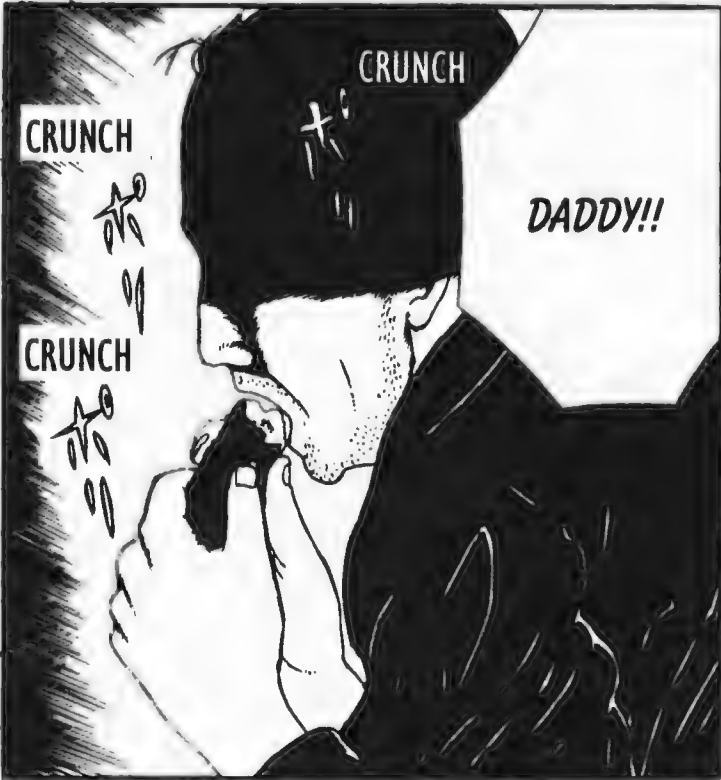








AAGH!! AAGH!!  
AAGH!! AAGH!!



CRUNCH

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

DADDY!!



CRUNCH

CRUNCH

HELP!!

CRUNCH



DADDY!  
HELP ME!!

HELP  
ME!!



OH,  
HELP ME!

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

CRUNCH



HELP!

CRUNCH

CRUNCH



AAGHHH!!

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

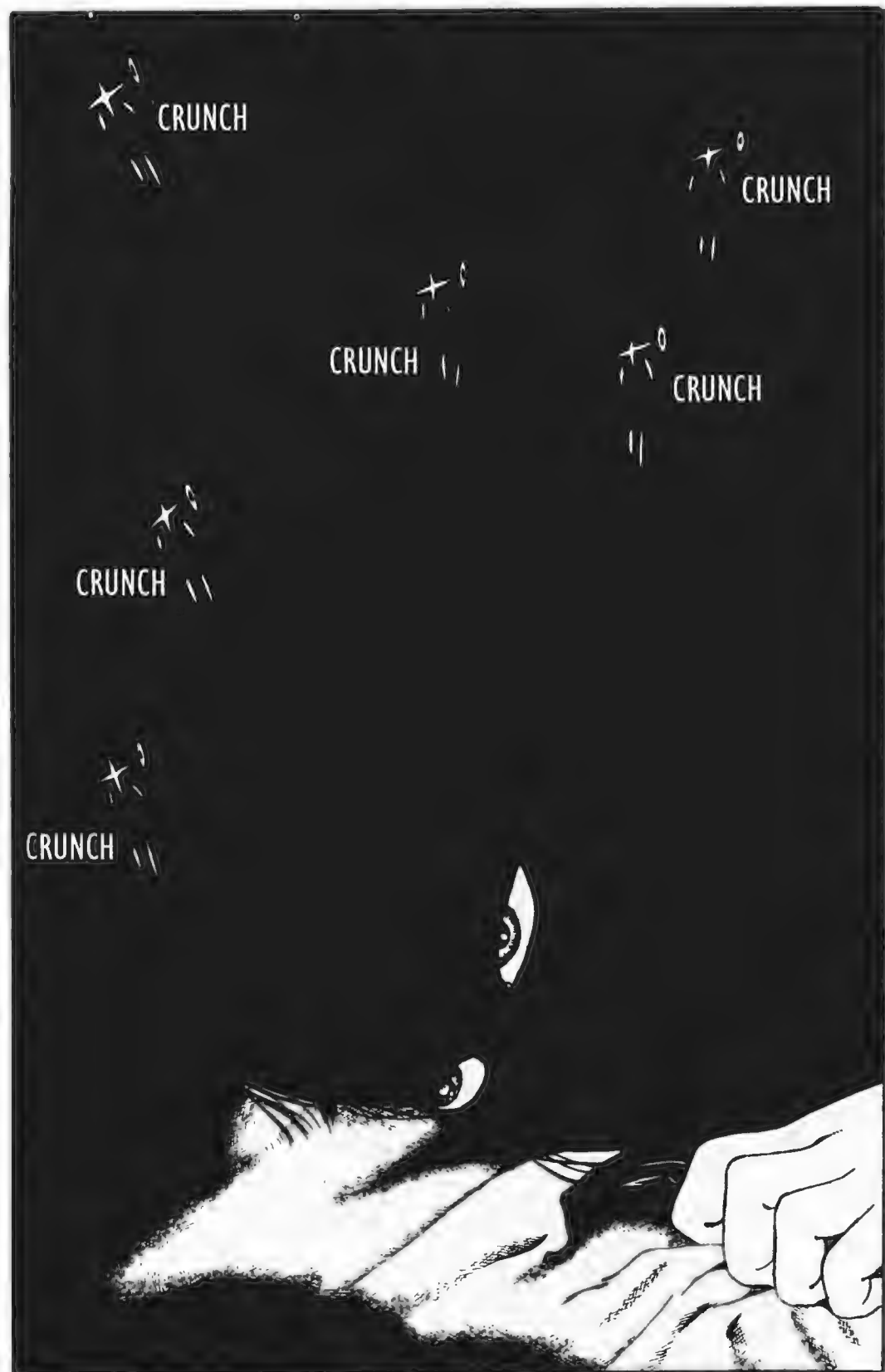




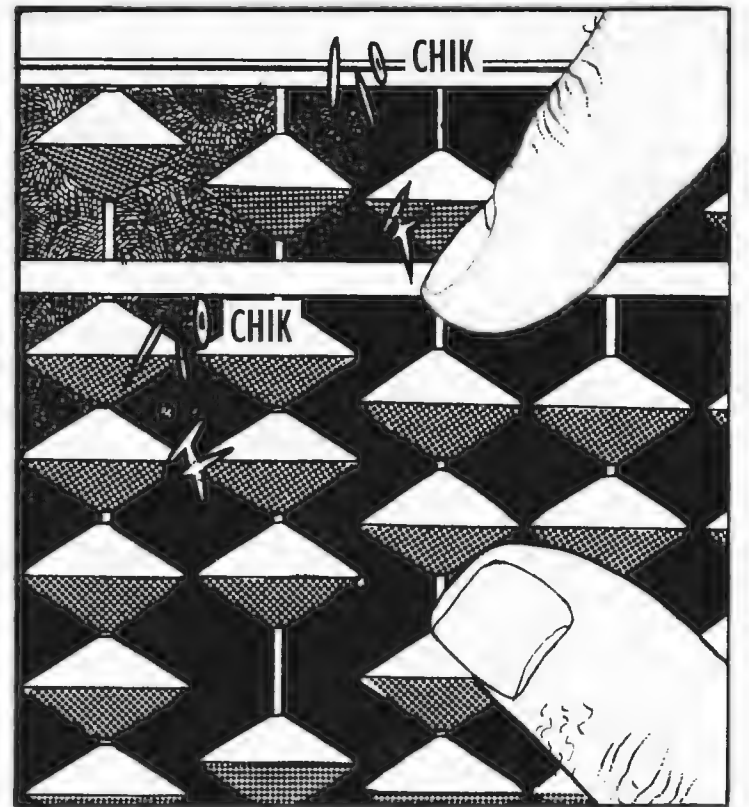
















HUH!  
WHAT A FAGGOT!



NOBODY COMES  
TO SEE THE SHOW  
ANYMORE. WE'LL  
NEVER GET  
ENOUGH MONEY  
TO GET OUT  
OF HERE.

ARE WE  
JUST GONNA  
STARVE TO  
DEATH?



SHUK



NOW WHAT  
ARE WE  
GONNA DO?



HE'S A FOOL  
TO JOIN  
THIS LOUSY  
CARNY ACT.



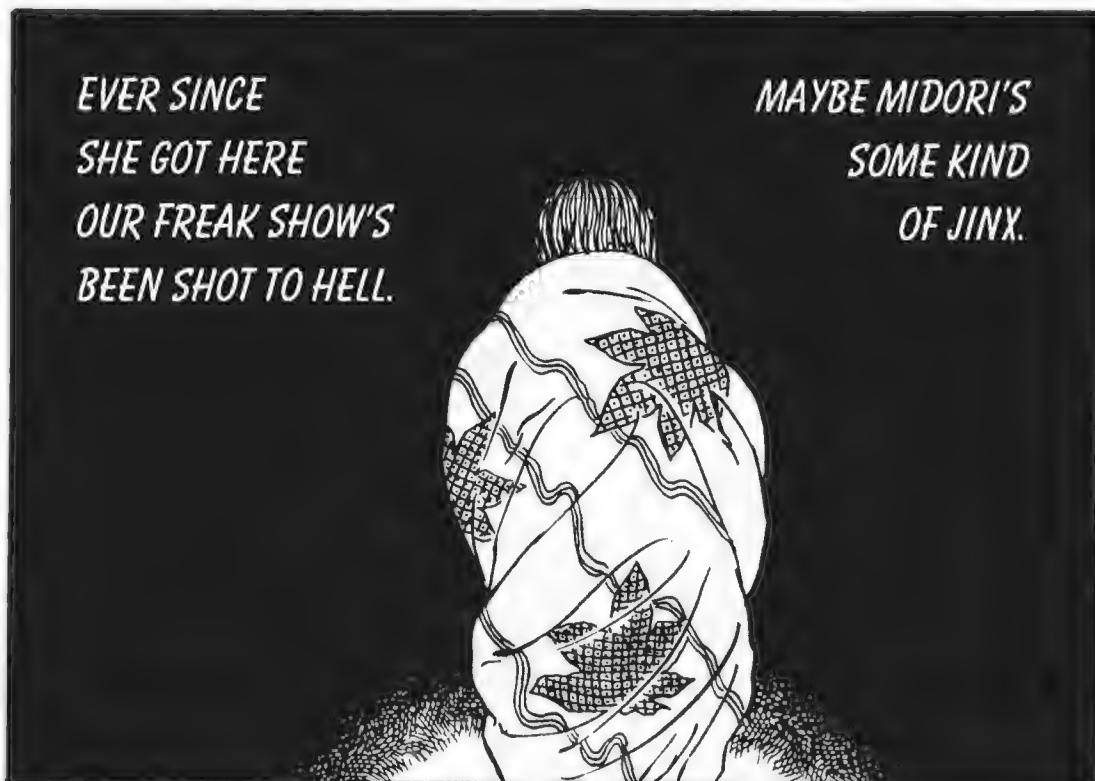
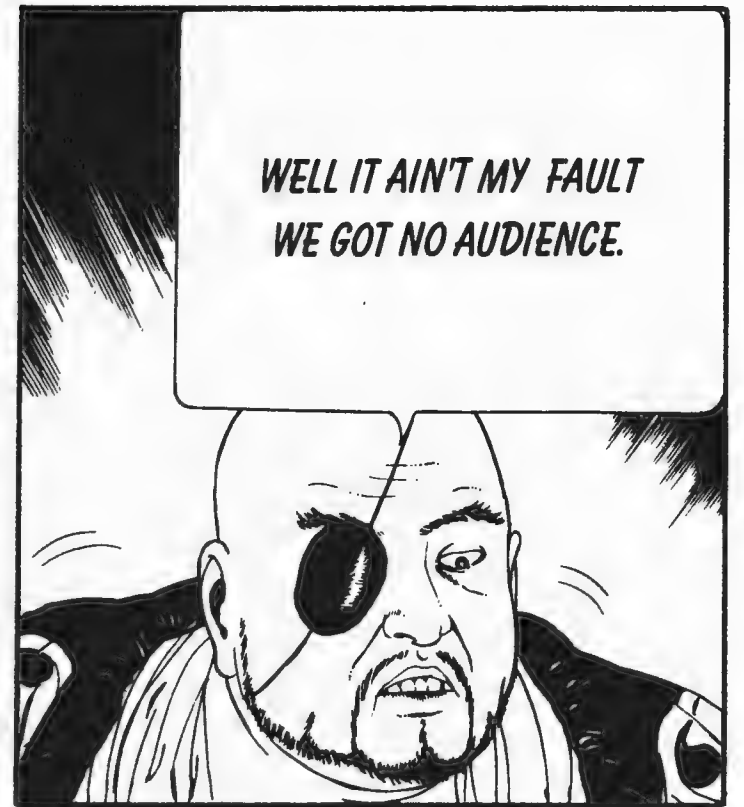
THEY SAY  
HE USES  
WESTERN  
MAGIC.

I HEAR ARASHI'S  
FOUND SOME  
NEW GUY  
FOR THE SHOW.

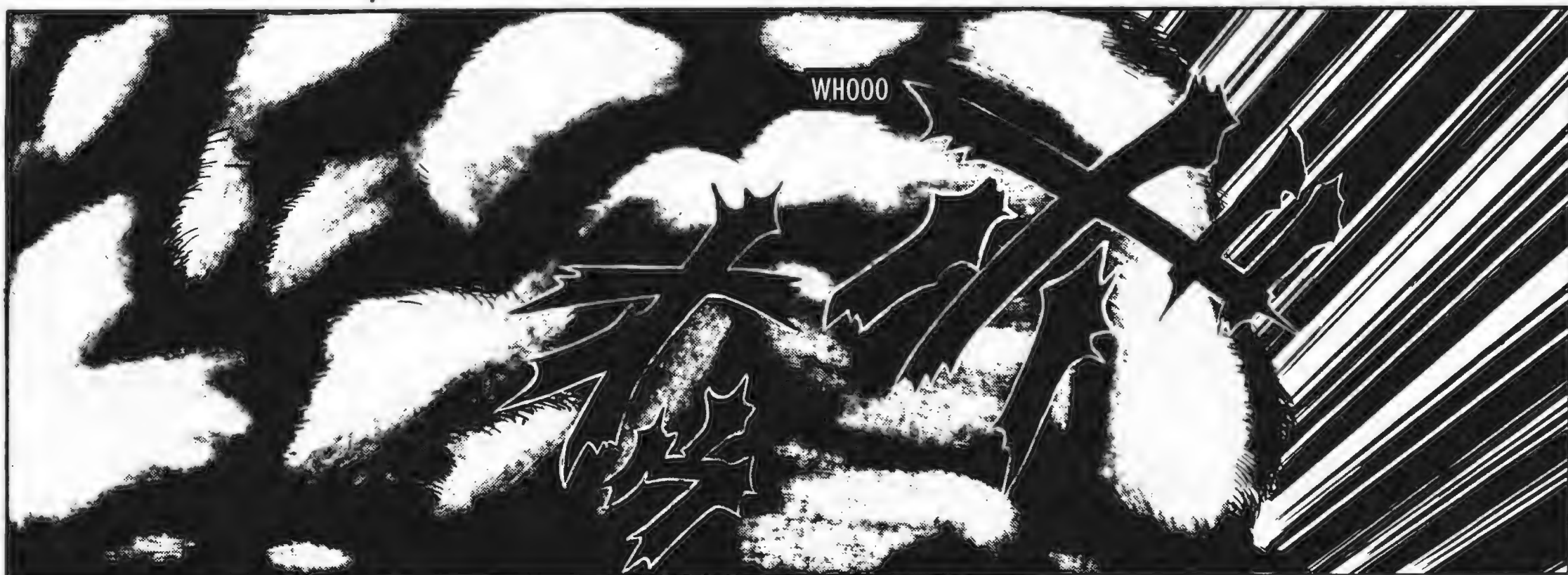
WE'RE  
REALLY  
SCREWED!

I GUESS I'LL  
JUST HAVE TO  
GET SOME WORK  
DIGGING  
DITCHES.

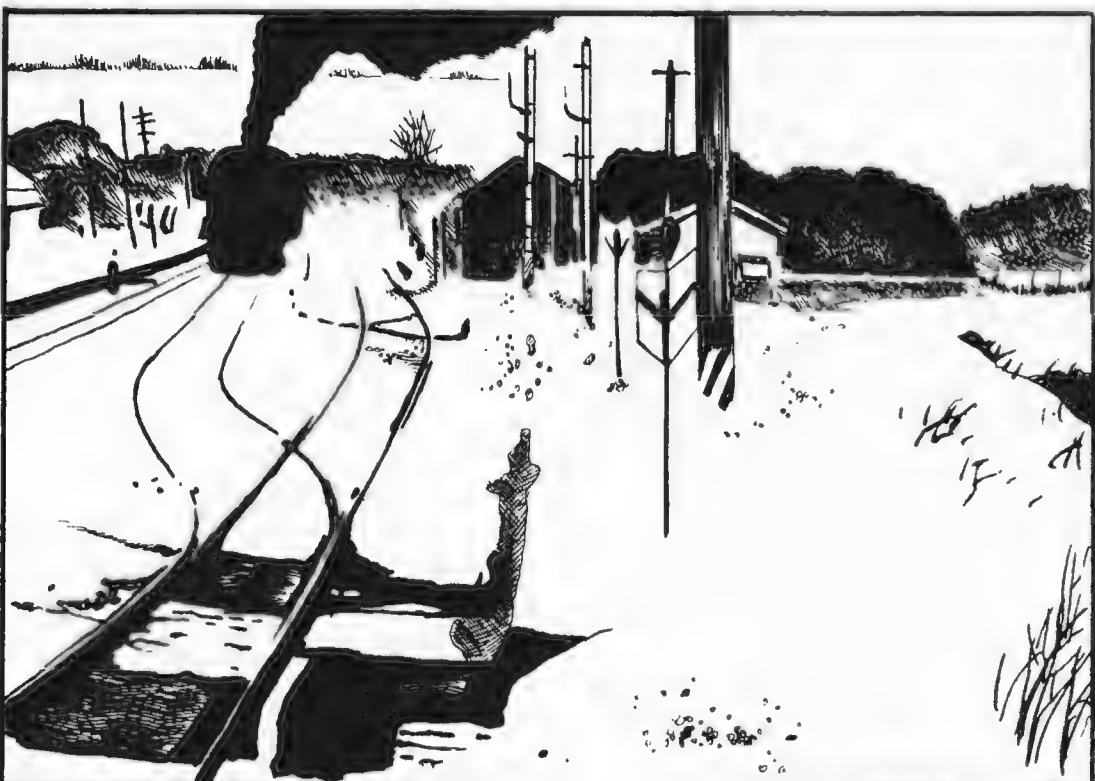












*FOREVER WANDERING  
UNDER THIS LIGHT OF THE AURORA,  
THIS ENDLESS SIBERIA.*



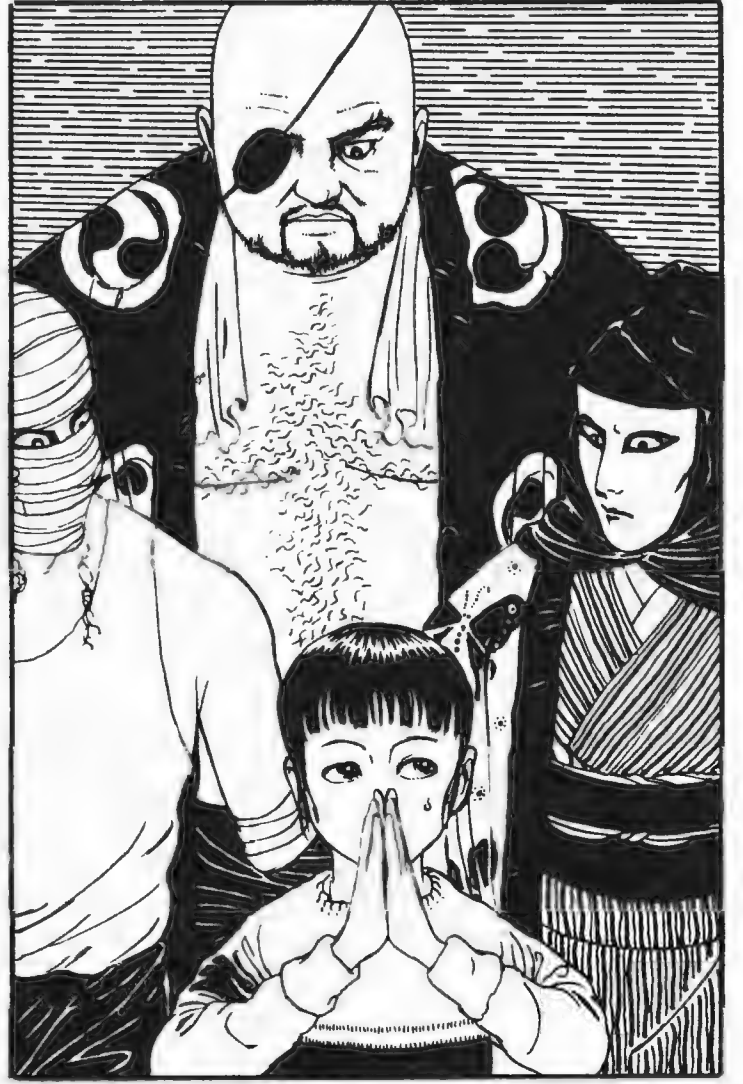
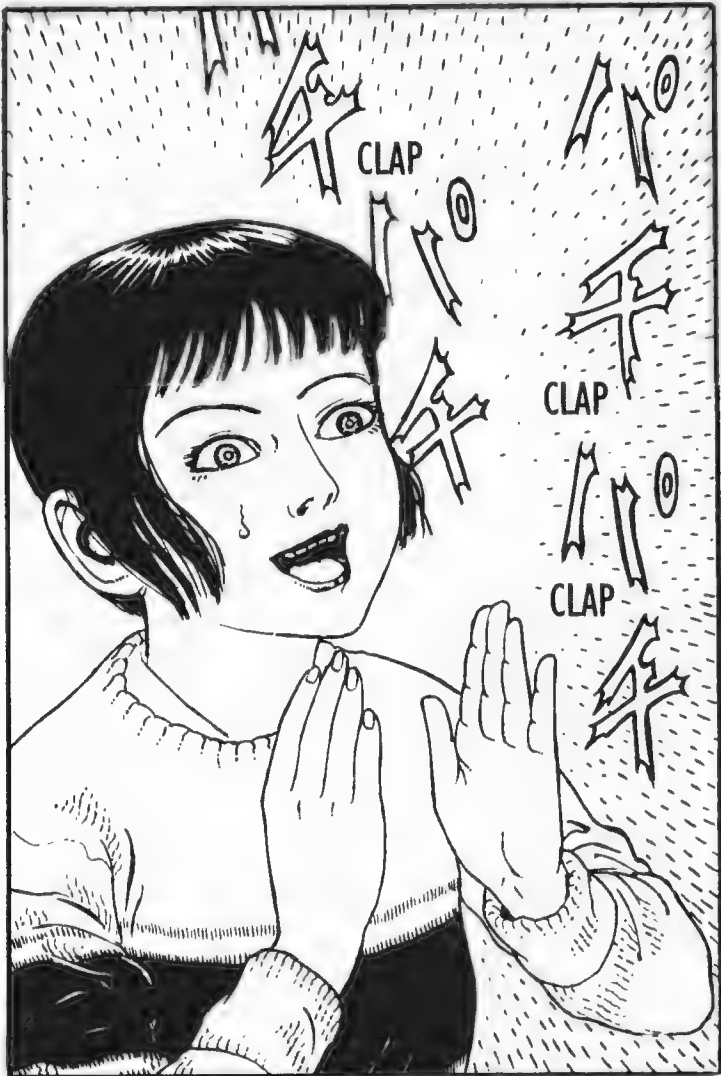




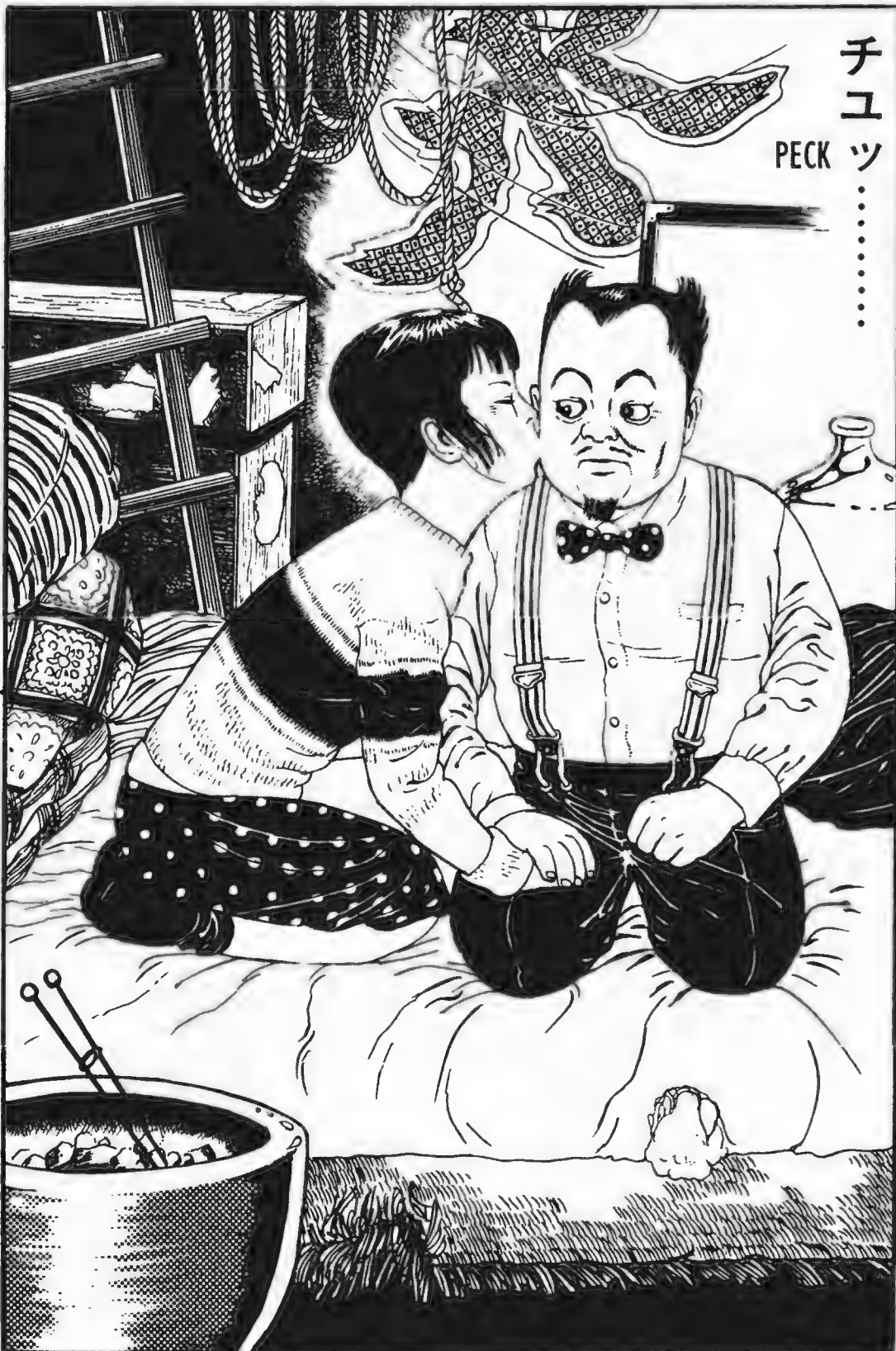
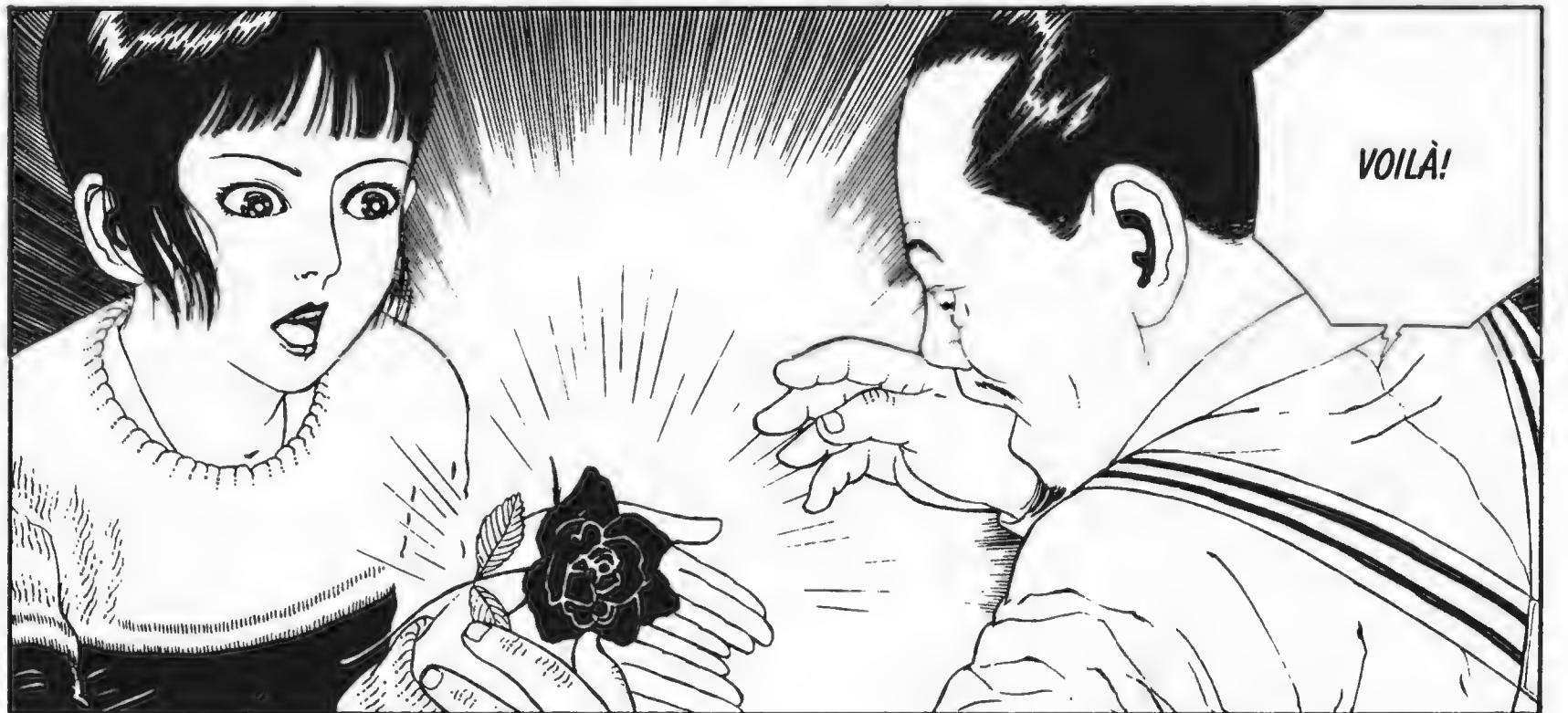


















**CHAPTER  
FOUR**

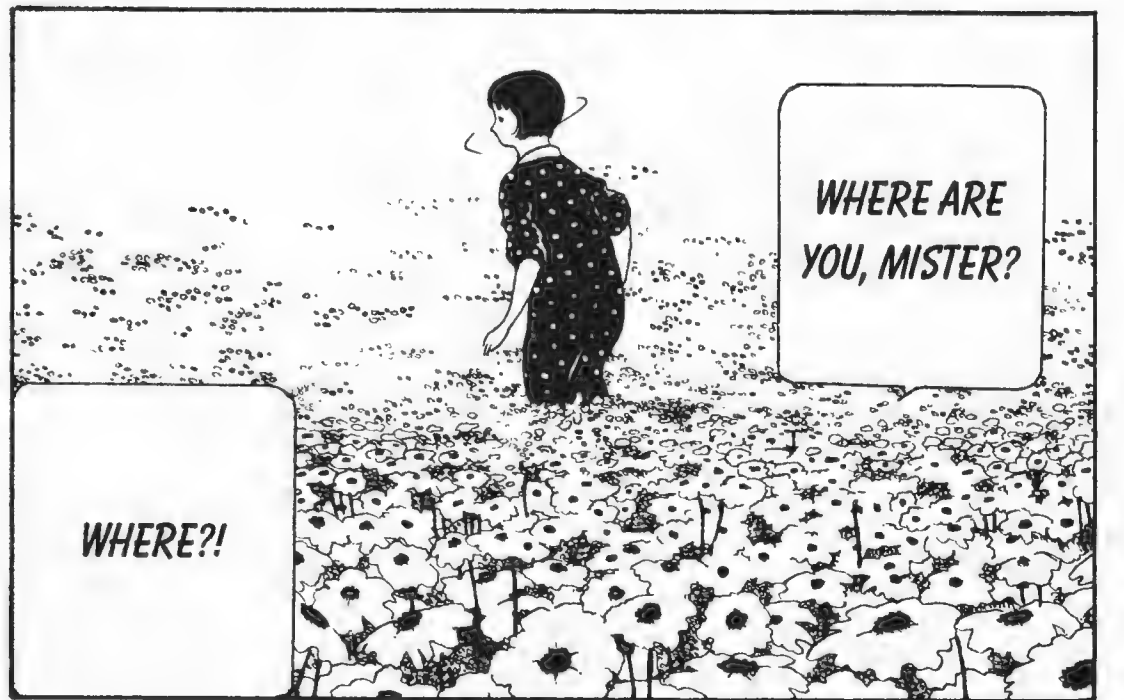
**FAME  
AND  
MEDIOCRITY**

















*I COULD MARRY YOU ...  
BUT I'M NOT A VIRGIN ANYMORE.*





THE INCREDIBLE  
MIDGET IN A BOTTLE—

# 幻戯 瓶の中の一寸法師

世界一!!  
ワンダー正光氏

THE ONE AND ONLY MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER!!

RIGHT THIS WAY!  
PAY AS YOU GO!  
IT'S A FEAST  
FOR THE EYE AND THE MIND!

OUT OF  
MY WAY,  
YOU...

I WANNA SIT  
UP FRONT!

BOOM

YOU JERK—  
STOP PUSHING!

STEP RIGHT UP!  
YOU CAN PAY AS  
YOU GO! STEP RIGHT  
UP AND AVOID  
THE RUSH!

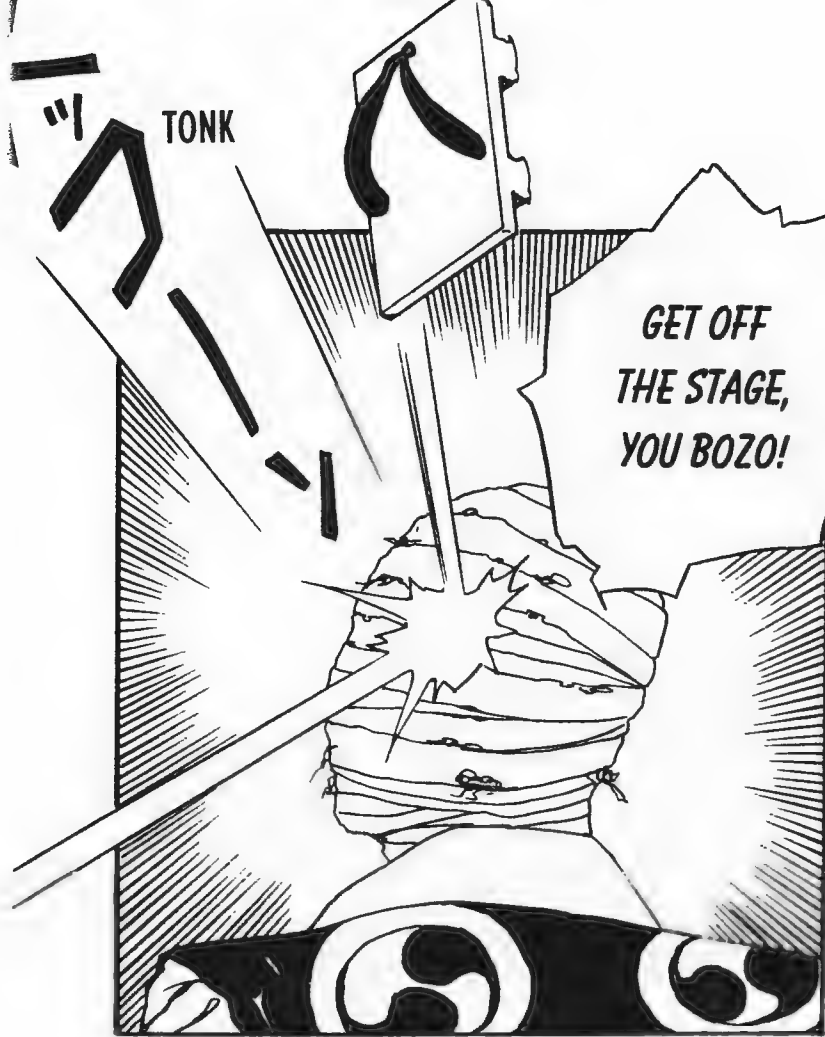
世界一!!  
ワンダー正光氏

BOOM

BOOM

HEY!  
DON'T PUSH ME!





TONK

GET OFF  
THE STAGE,  
YOU BOZO!



LADIES AND  
GENTLEMEN!  
WATCH THE  
MUMMY MAN HIT  
THE BULL'S-EYE!



UH,  
EXCUSE ME,  
SIR—ARE YOU  
READY TO  
GO ON?

BRING OUT  
MASAMITSU!



WE WANT  
MASAMITSU!



MIDORI, SWEETIE,  
ARE YOU  
ALMOST READY?



IN A  
MOMENT.



UMMM—SIR?



YEP!





LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!



MASAMITSU THE BOTTLED WONDER



THANK YOU,  
THANK YOU.

CLAP

CLAP

OH BOY!

WE'RE FINALLY  
GONNA SEE  
MASAMITSU!

CLAP



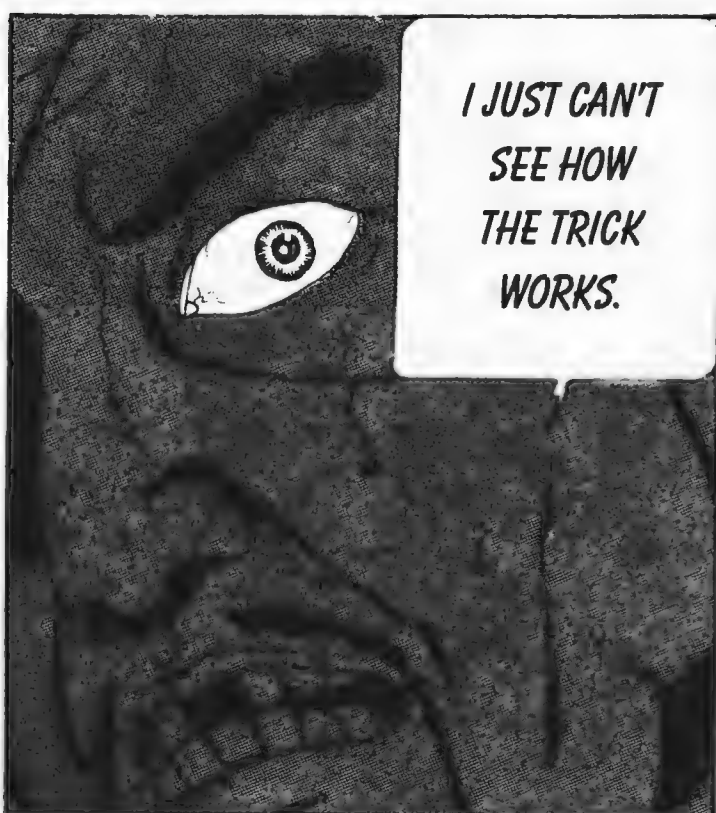
MAY I  
INTRODUCE  
MY LOVELY  
ASSISTANT,  
MIDORI.

HOORAY!



HUUUH!







knees. As the crowd roars, Ittoku protests that it is too difficult to get into the bottle. But the carny barker standing alongside him objects, "You know you always like getting into the vase—what's this sudden reluctance?" The handkerchief clasped in his right hand, Ittoku begins to sink down into the vase. His shoulders disappear, and after lingering a moment at the edge of the vase, the handkerchief too disappears into the vessel. Suddenly the barker claps his hands and calls out to Ittoku. A voice resounds from inside the vase. As the voice continues to speak from within the vase, in the ceiling directly above a hole opens up from which Ittoku slowly descends, still holding the



The curtain rises. At center stage stands a vase three feet in height whose mouth measures at about a foot and a half in diameter. Ittoku appears on stage and tilts the vase down to show the audience it is empty. Then he places the vase atop a large table beneath which there is nothing—no devices of any kind. Several feet behind the table hangs a white curtain from above. Six candles encircling the table are lit, and they illuminate the stage very brightly. Dressed in a suit and holding a red handkerchief in his hand, Ittoku steps into the vase and stands up straight. The vase comes up only to his



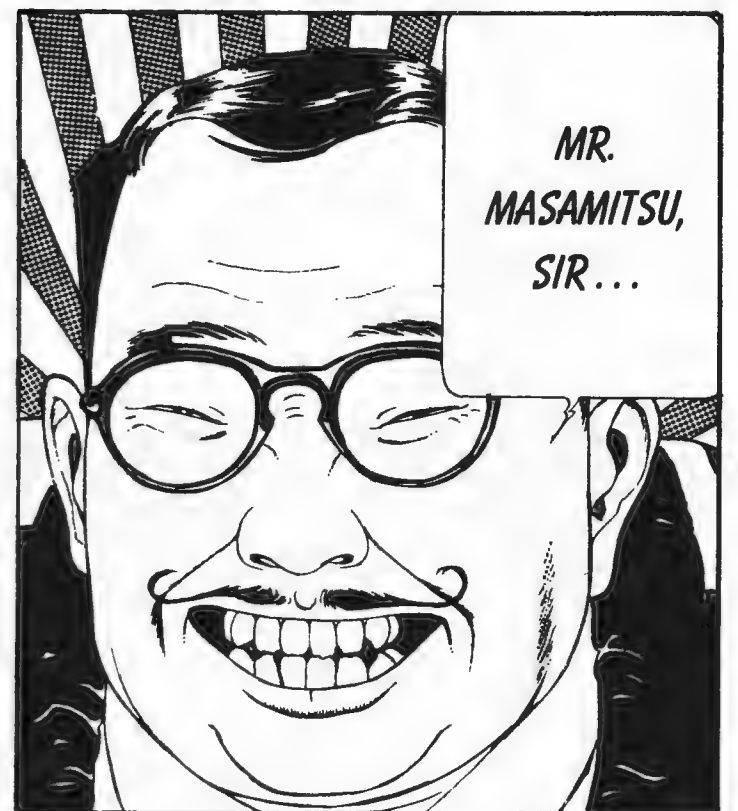
resounds again. And at this very instant a man clothed in a beautiful golden kimono appears from stage left and steps up in front of the vase. It is none other than Ittoku himself. Breathless, the audience cannot believe their eyes.

*A History of Shows*  
Itsuki Furukawa



handkerchief in his hand. He stands again in the vase and declares, "You have seen me escape by ascension; this time I shall escape by descending." Immediately he sinks into the vase as before, but this time the handkerchief remains half in and half outside the vase. Again the barker claps and calls out to Ittoku. And from within the vase a voice

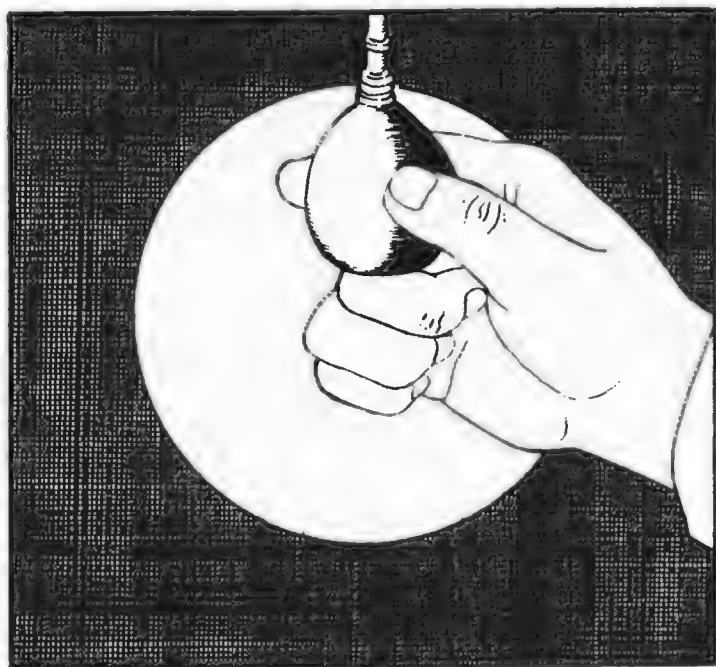




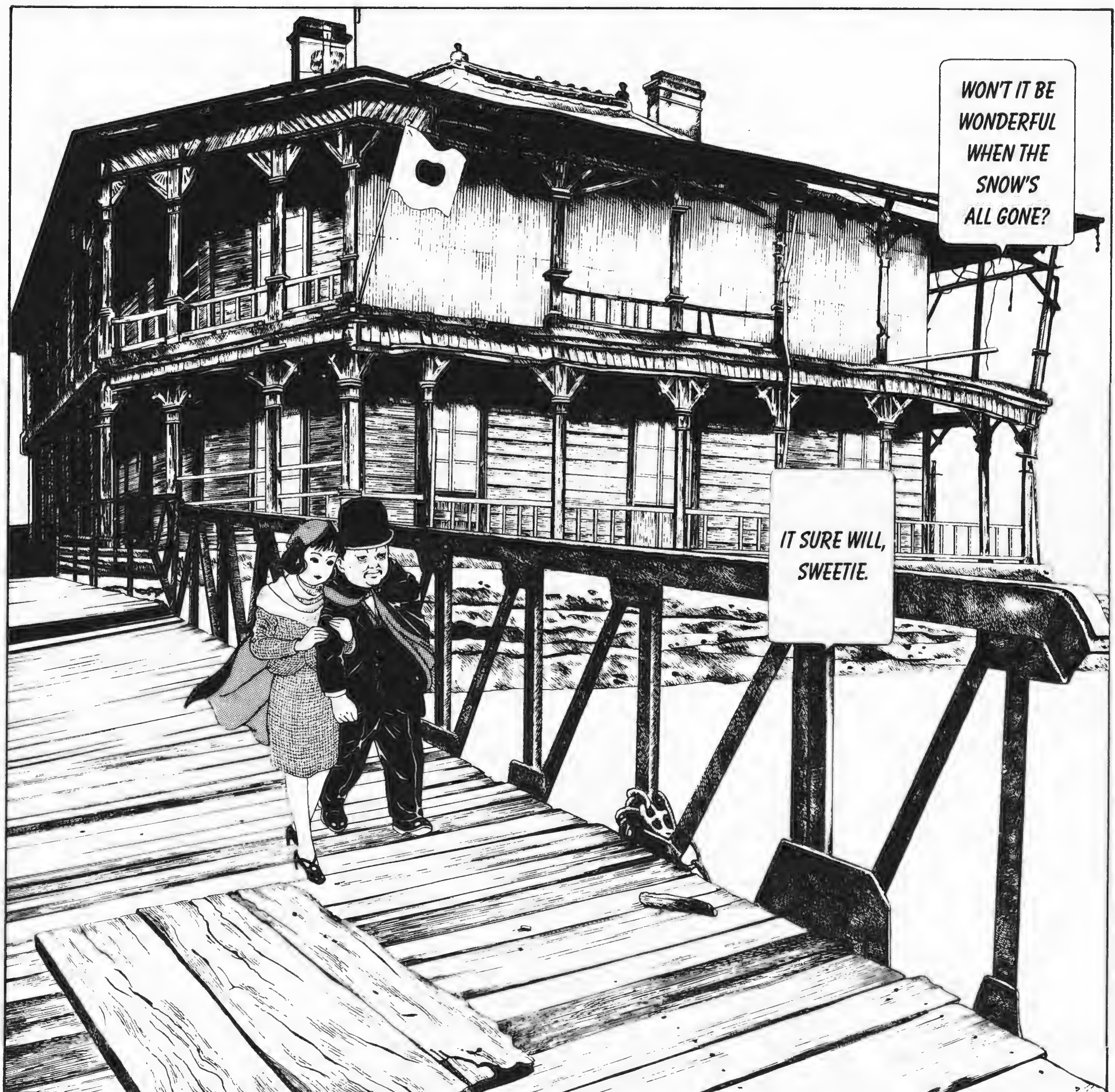


READY?

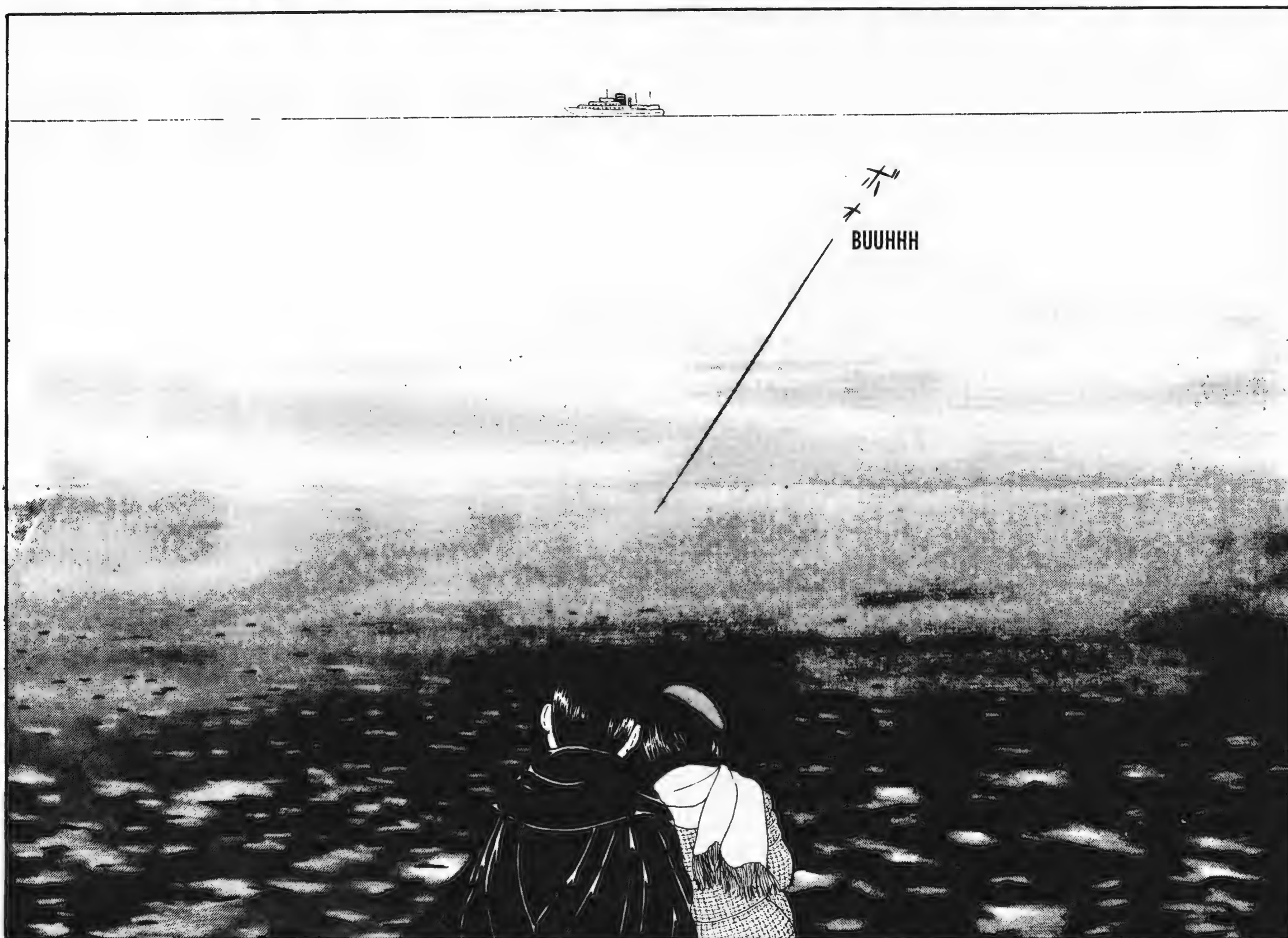
NOW, SMILE!















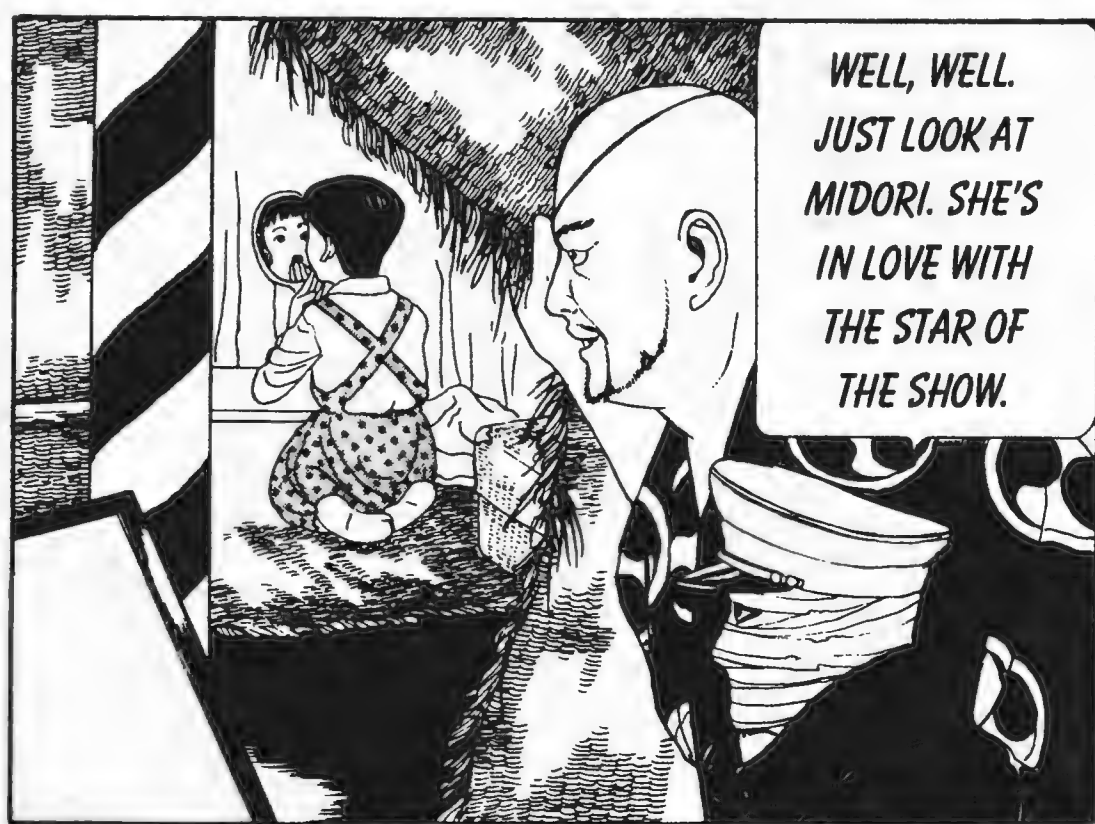
LET ME TELL YOU...

"THE DARKNESS HOLDS MANY MYSTERIES  
THE DAYLIGHT MAY BRING UNTOLD DANGER  
IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT DARK SPIRITS SPREAD PLAGUES  
AND MID-DAY BRINGS RELENTLESS DISEASE  
YET THOU MUST NOT BE AFRAID..."

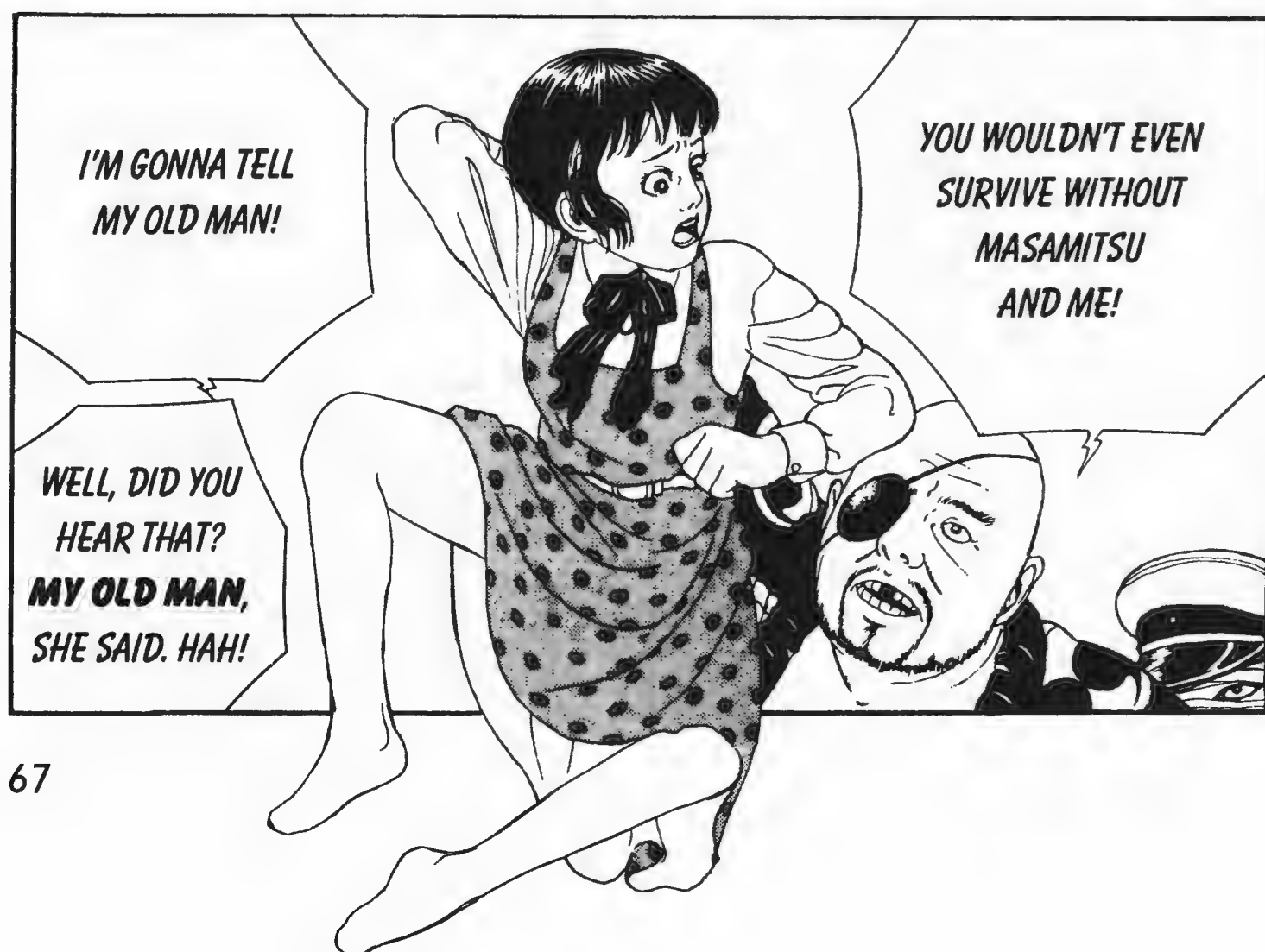
YES, I DO.

THAT IS IT. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

















HA HA  
HA HA!



WONK

UUUUHH



ROUND AND  
ROUND AND  
ROUND SHE  
GOES!



DROP DEAD,  
YOU, YOU...

FASTER!  
FASTER!



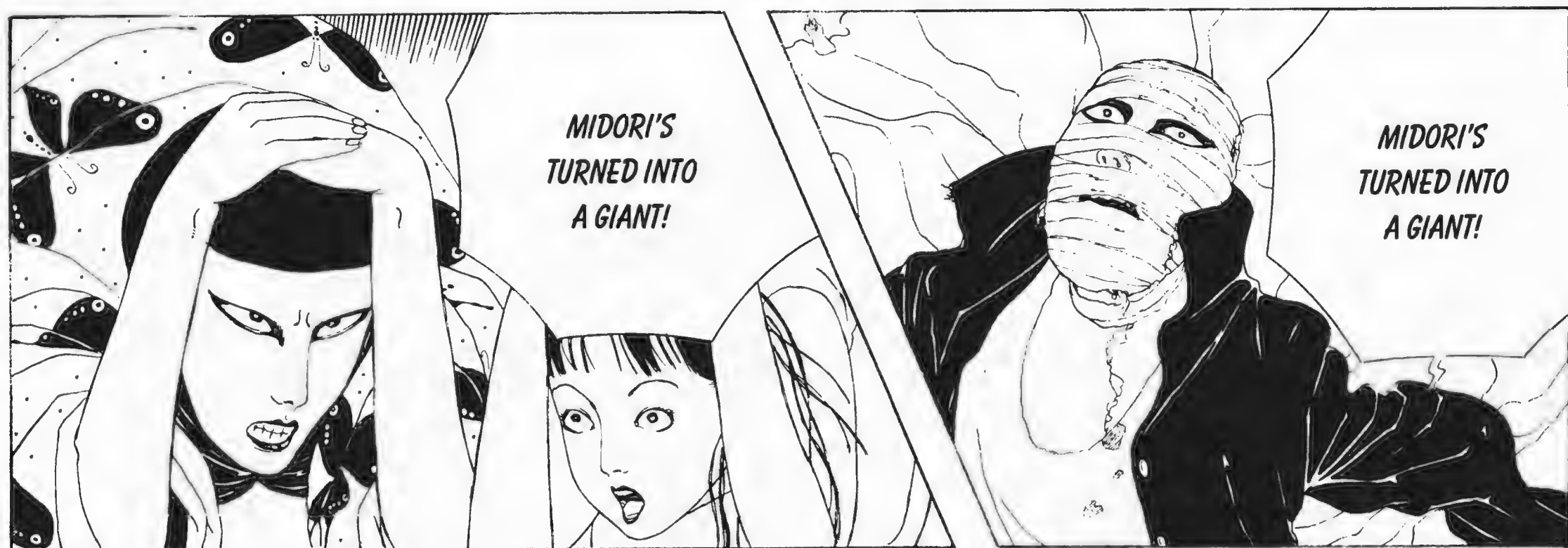


W0000M!





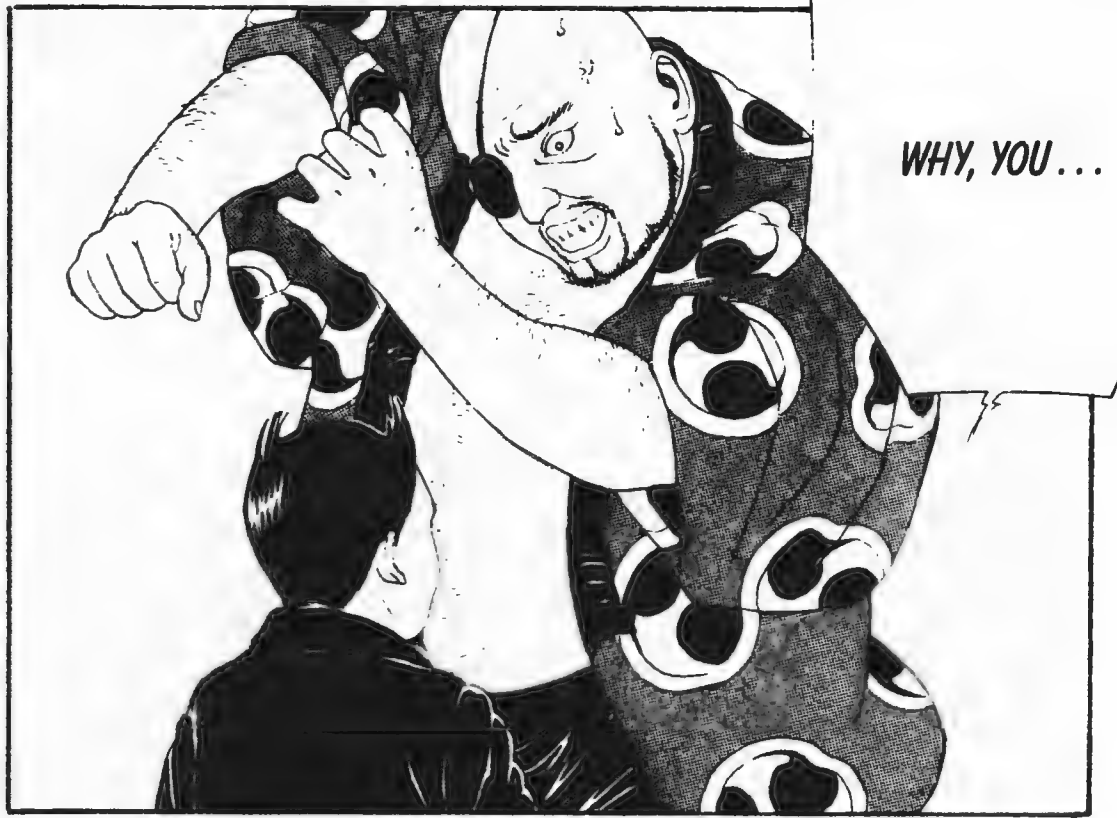




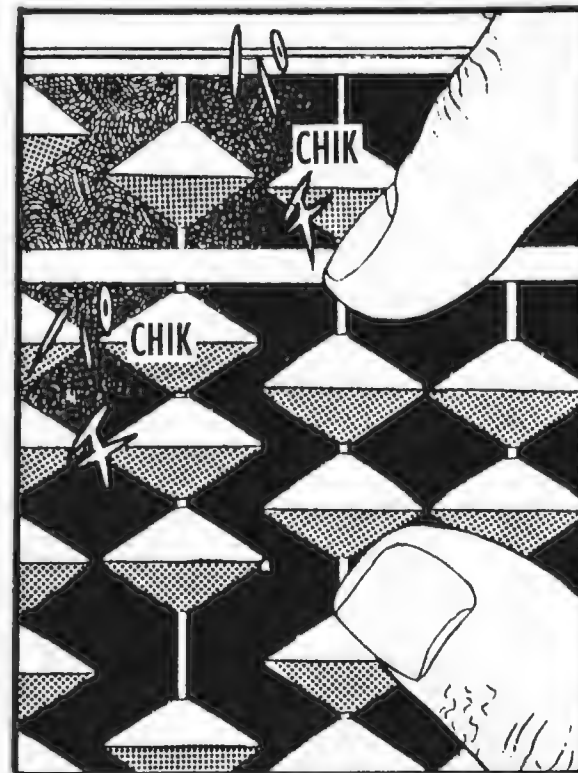
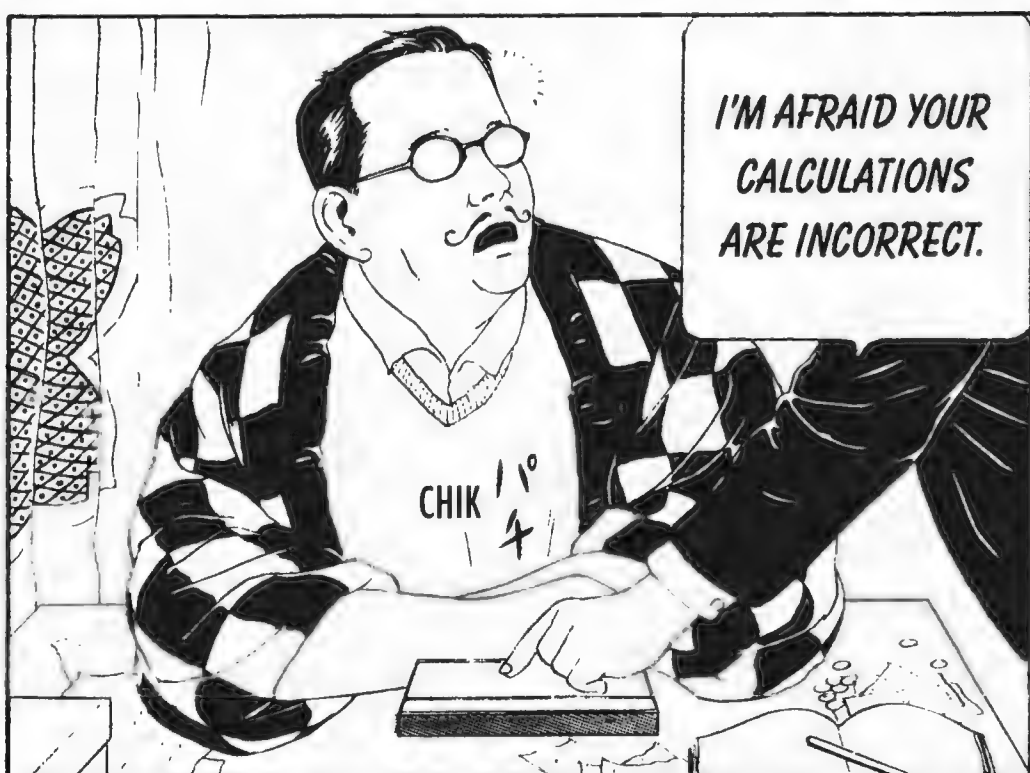
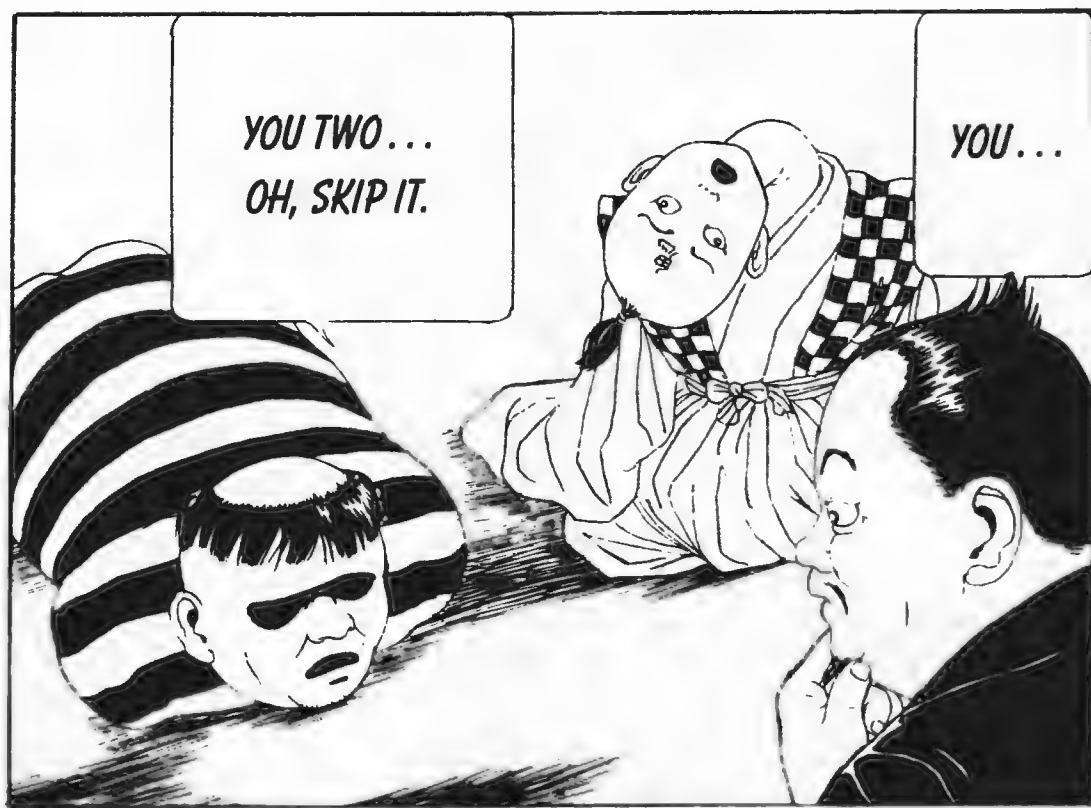




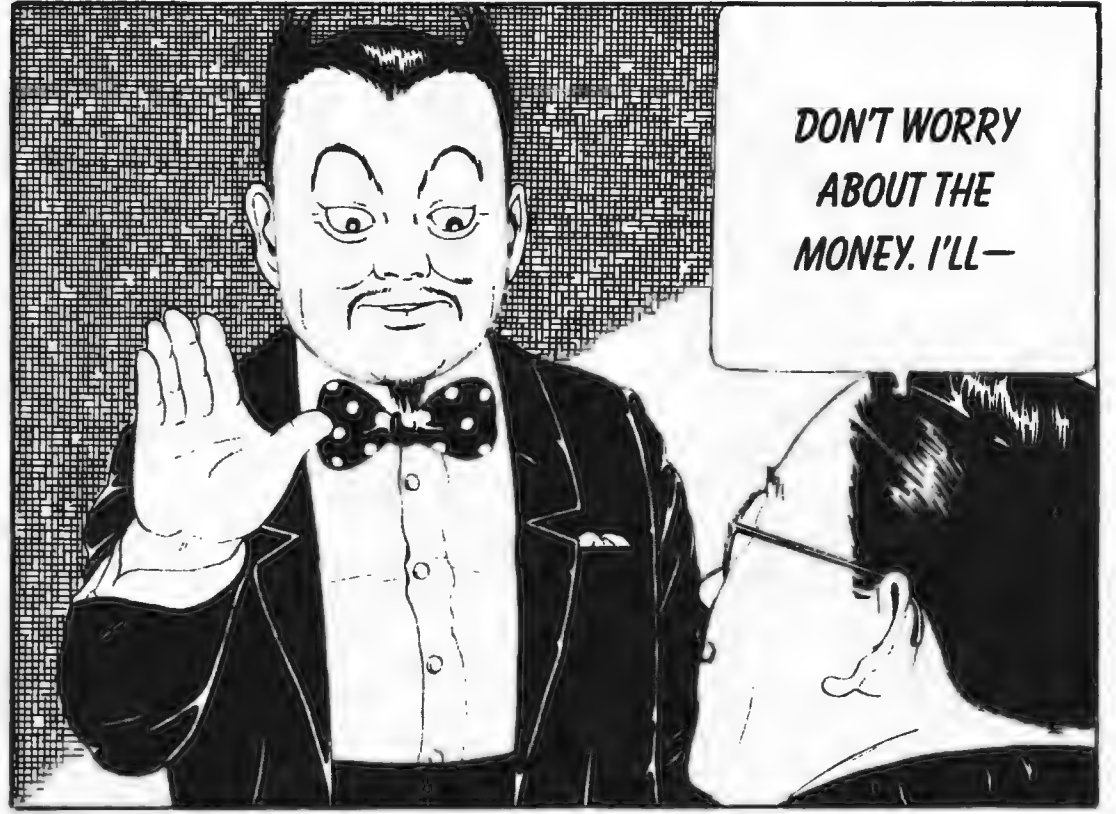




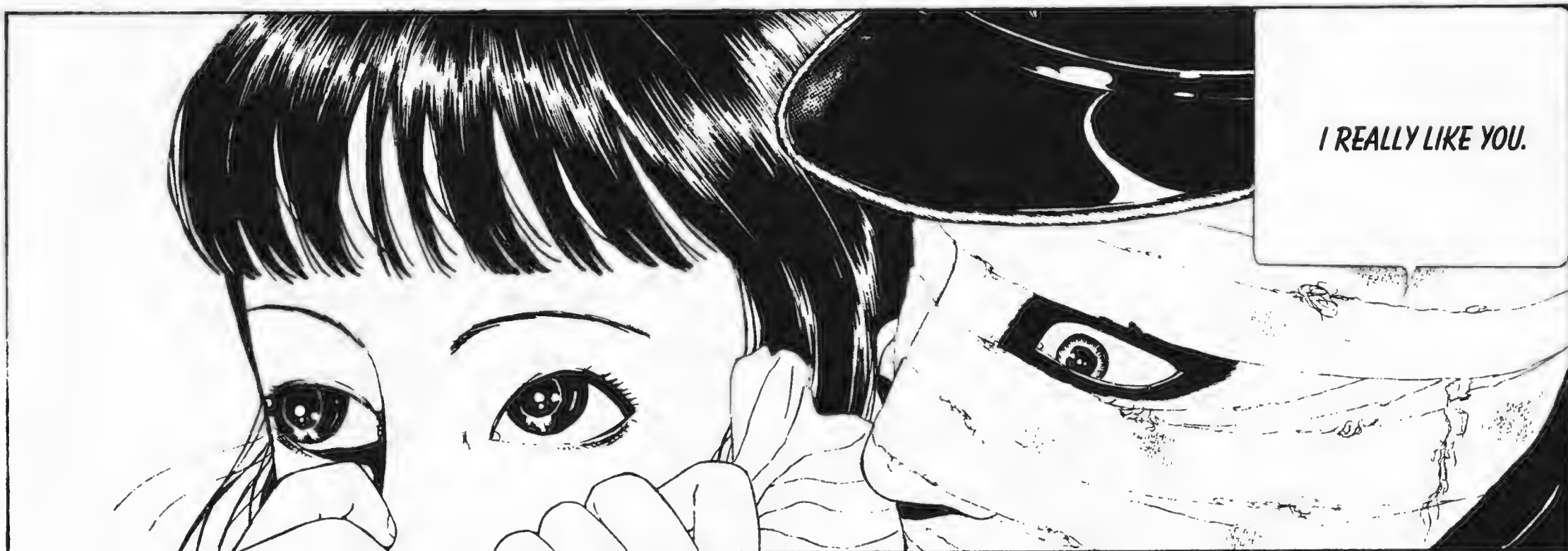




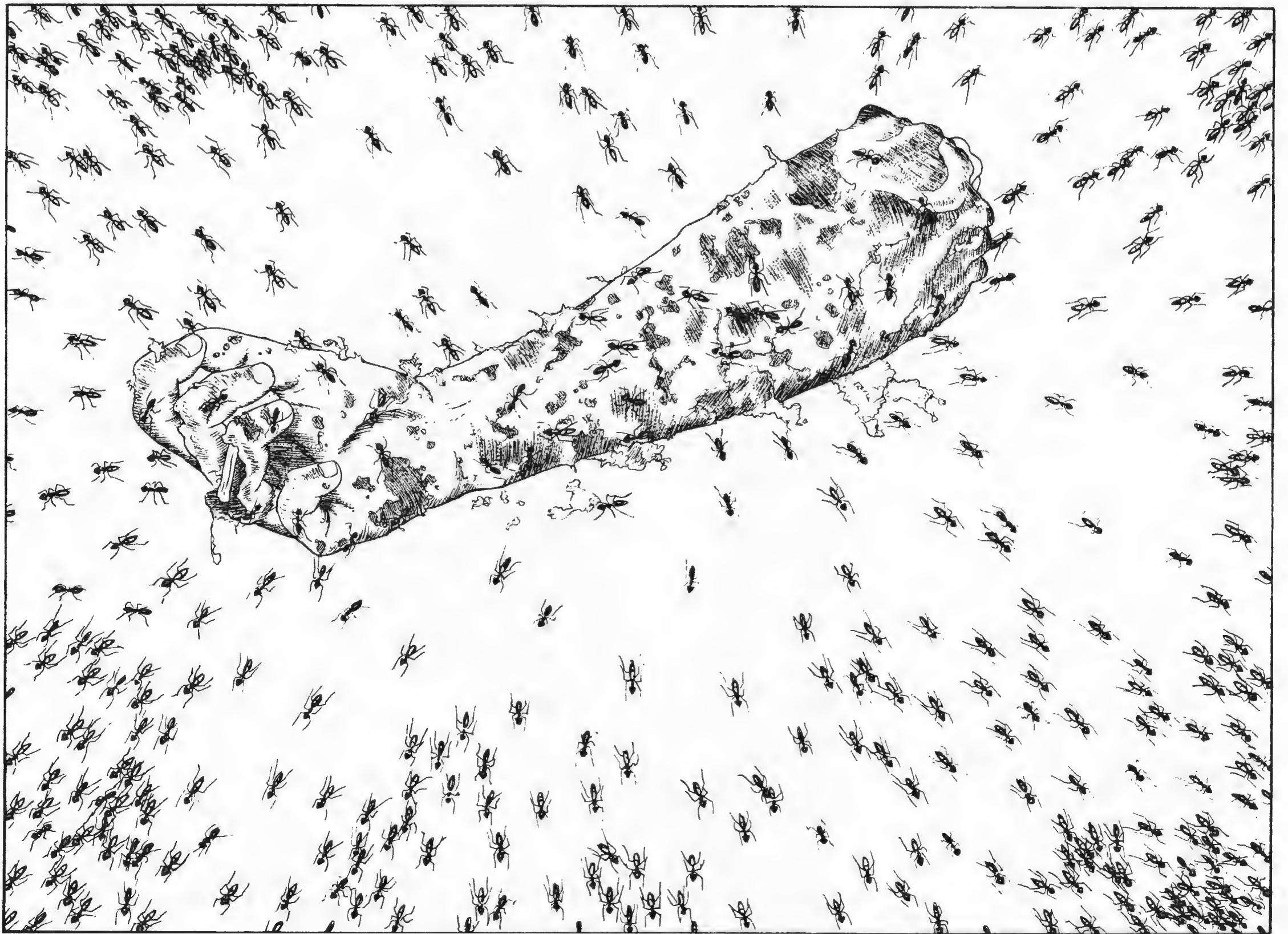
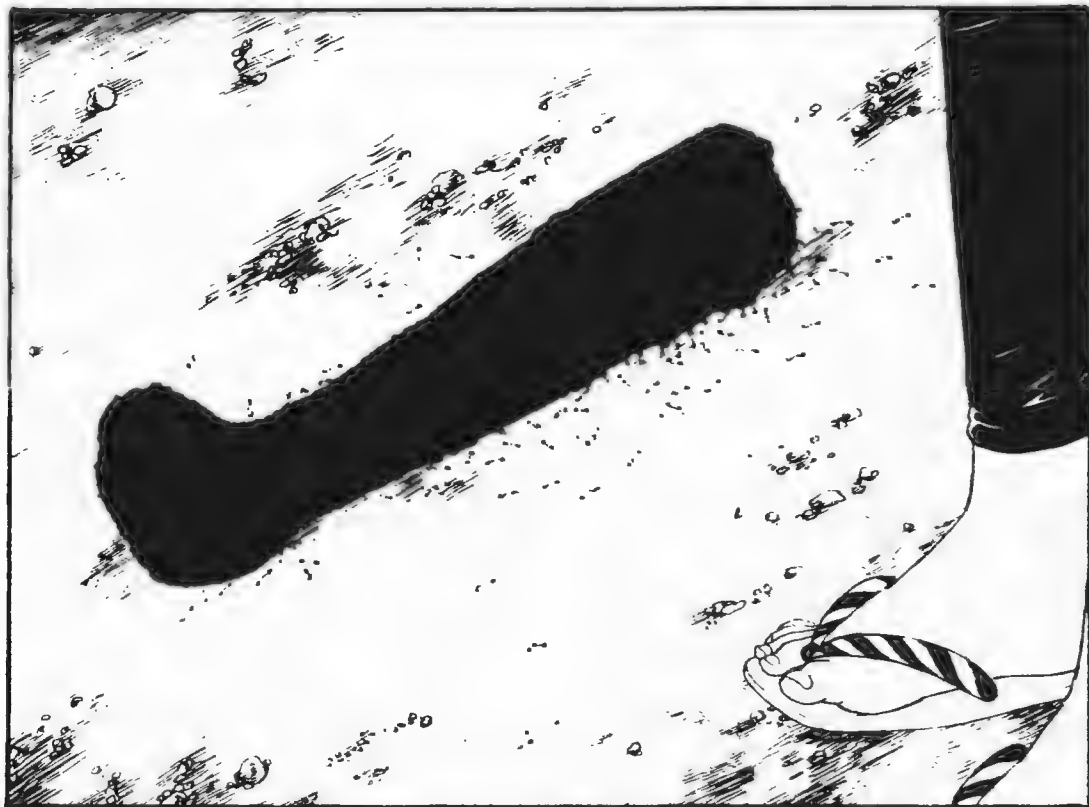












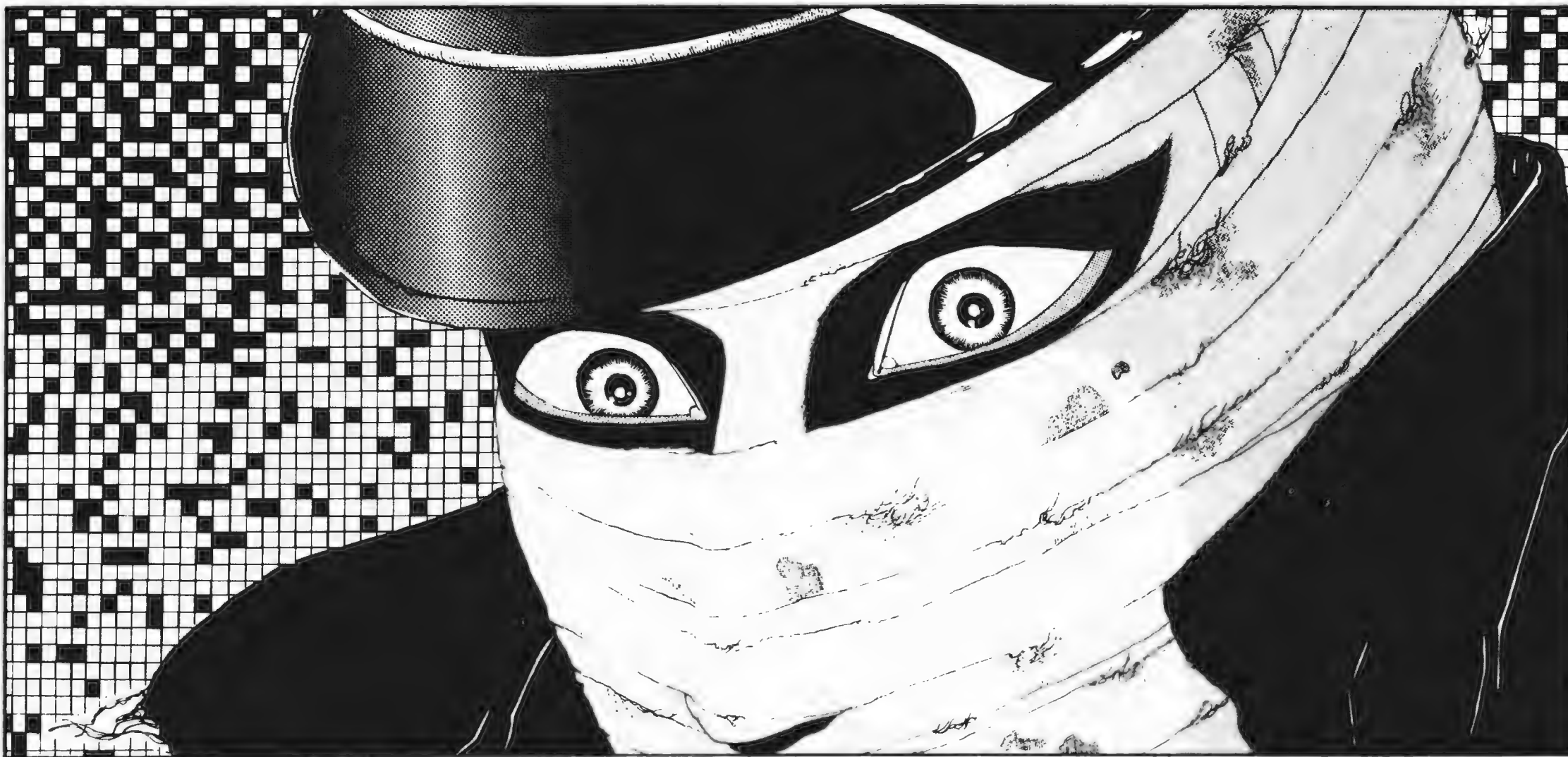


**CHAPTER  
FIVE**

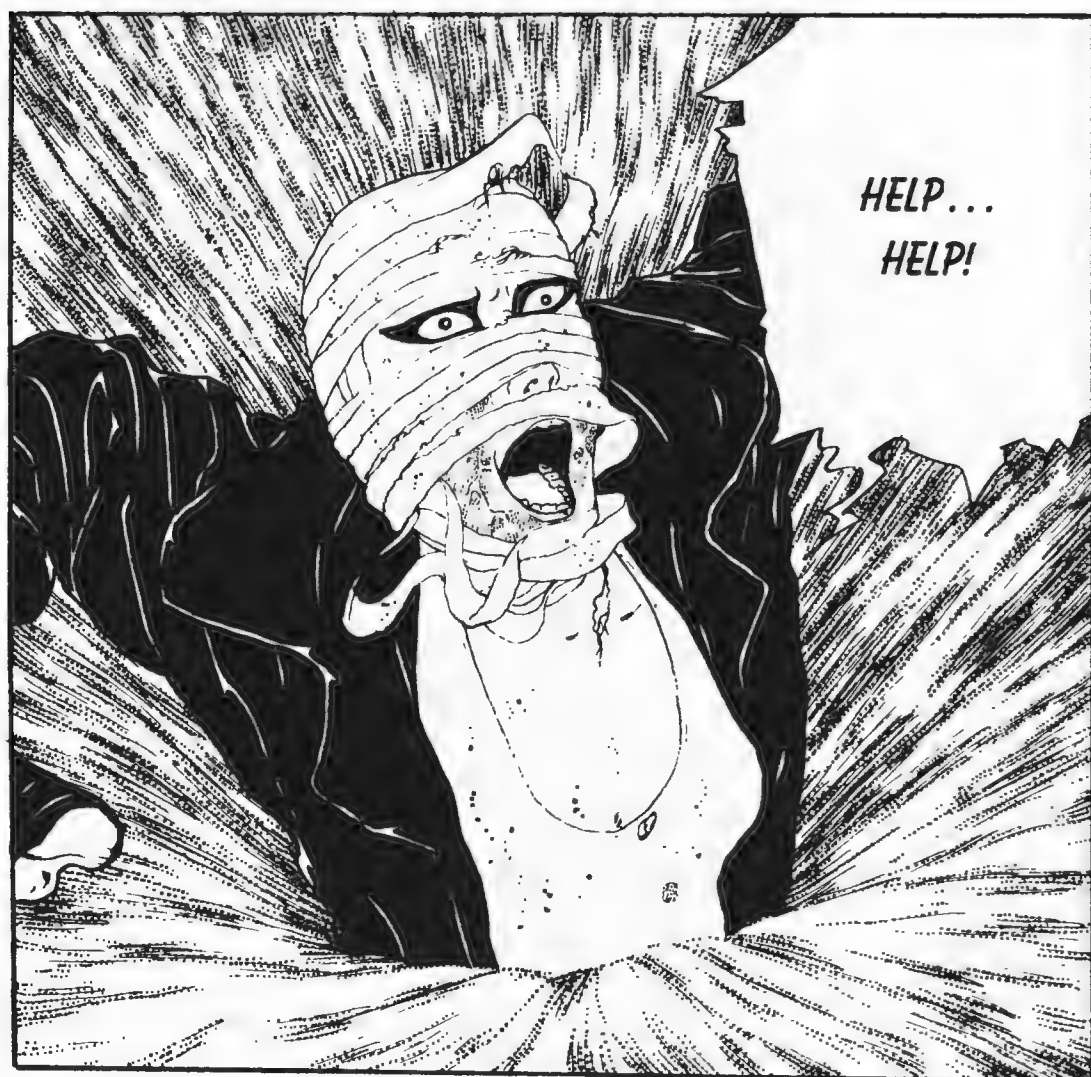
**THE  
WAGES OF  
SIN**



















NO. I AM YOU.



MA...  
MASAMITSU!!



OH NO,  
I'M NOT  
FALLING FOR  
THAT TRICK.

YOU  
BASTARD!



FSH

MA...

HAVING  
SOME TROUBLE?



YOU'RE GOING TO  
SINK IF YOU  
DON'T DO  
SOMETHING  
QUICK.

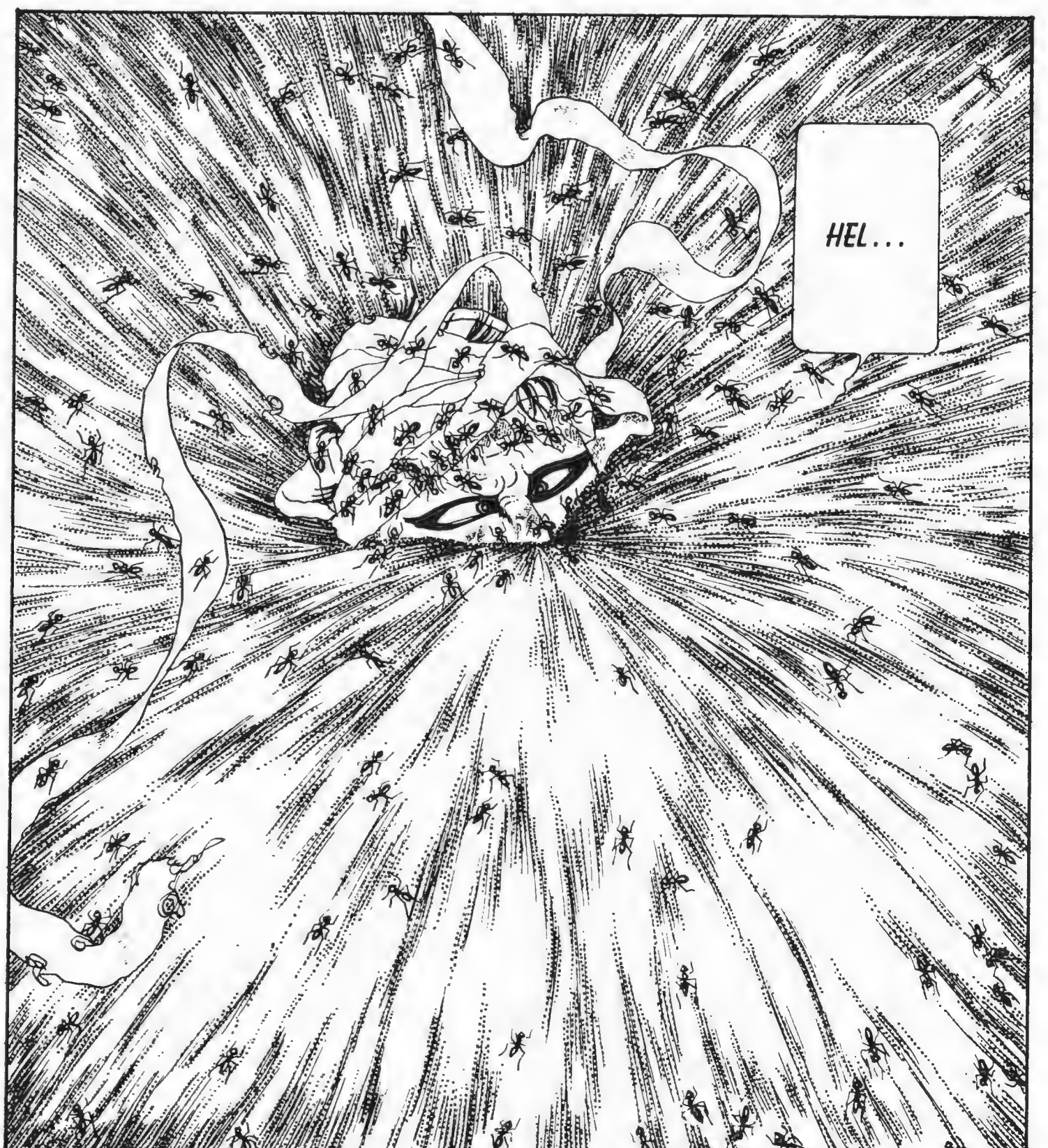
FSH  
SSH  
SSH

URGH...  
UMPH...

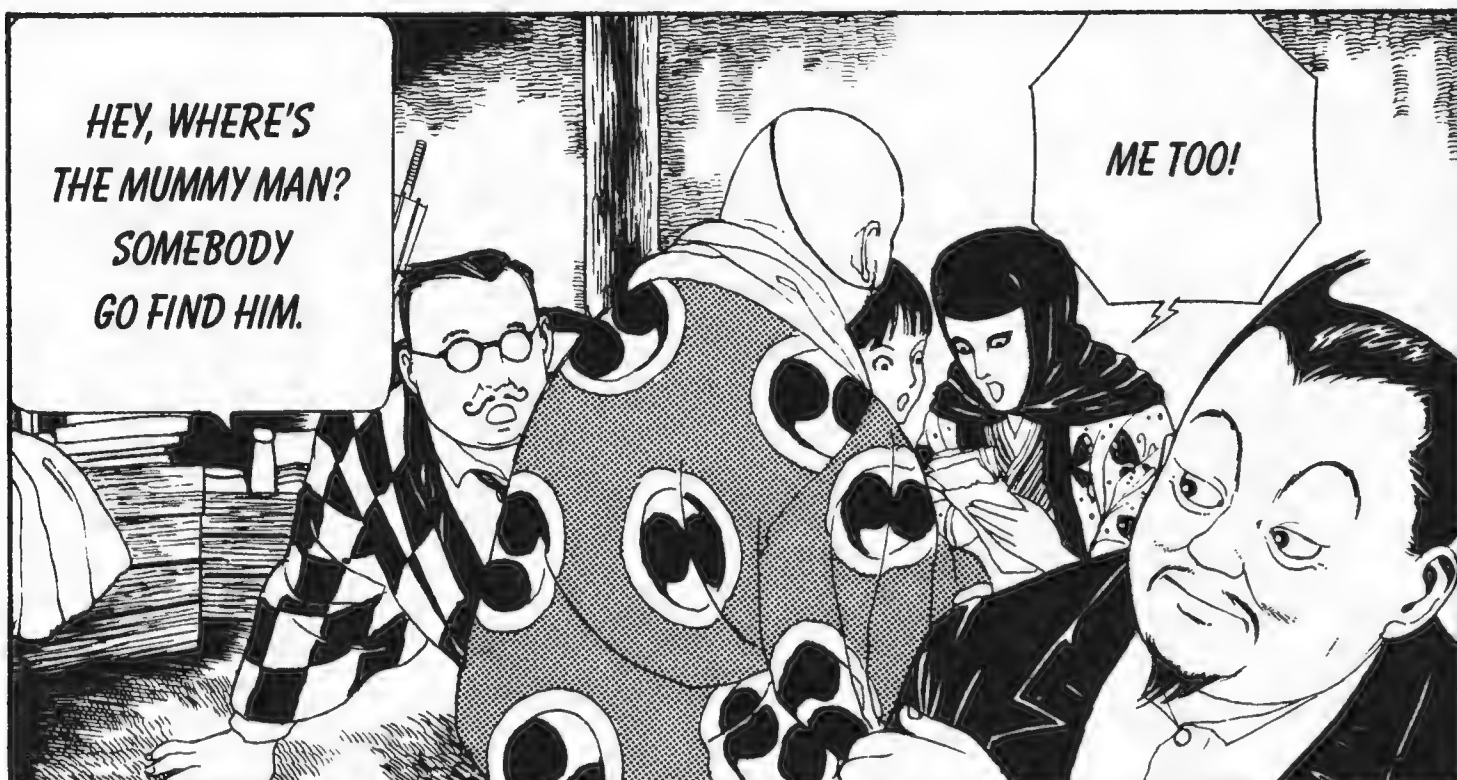
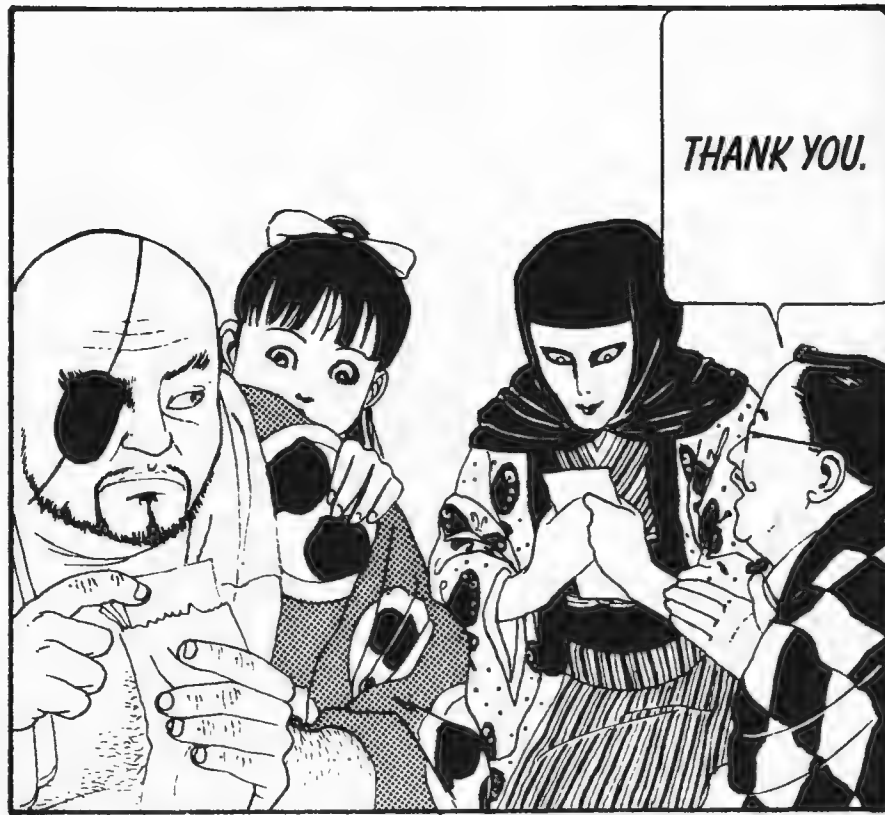
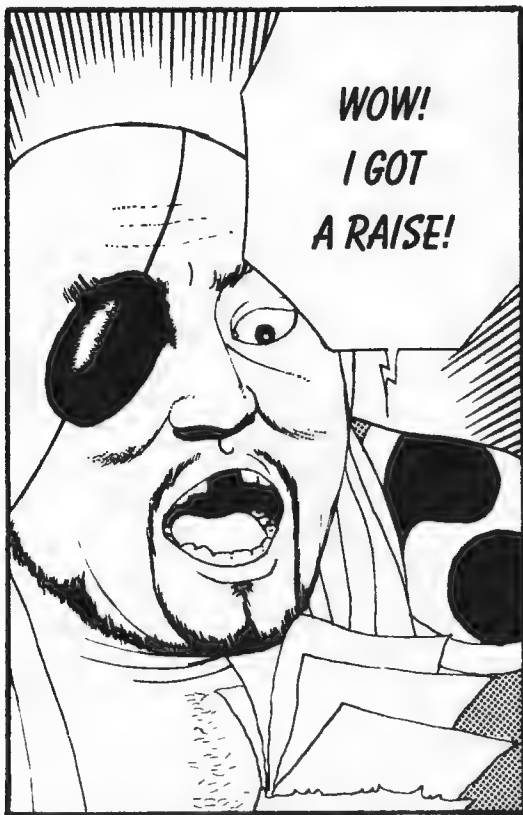


ALL RIGHT,  
THEN YOU CAN  
GET OUT OF  
THAT HOLE  
BY YOURSELF.

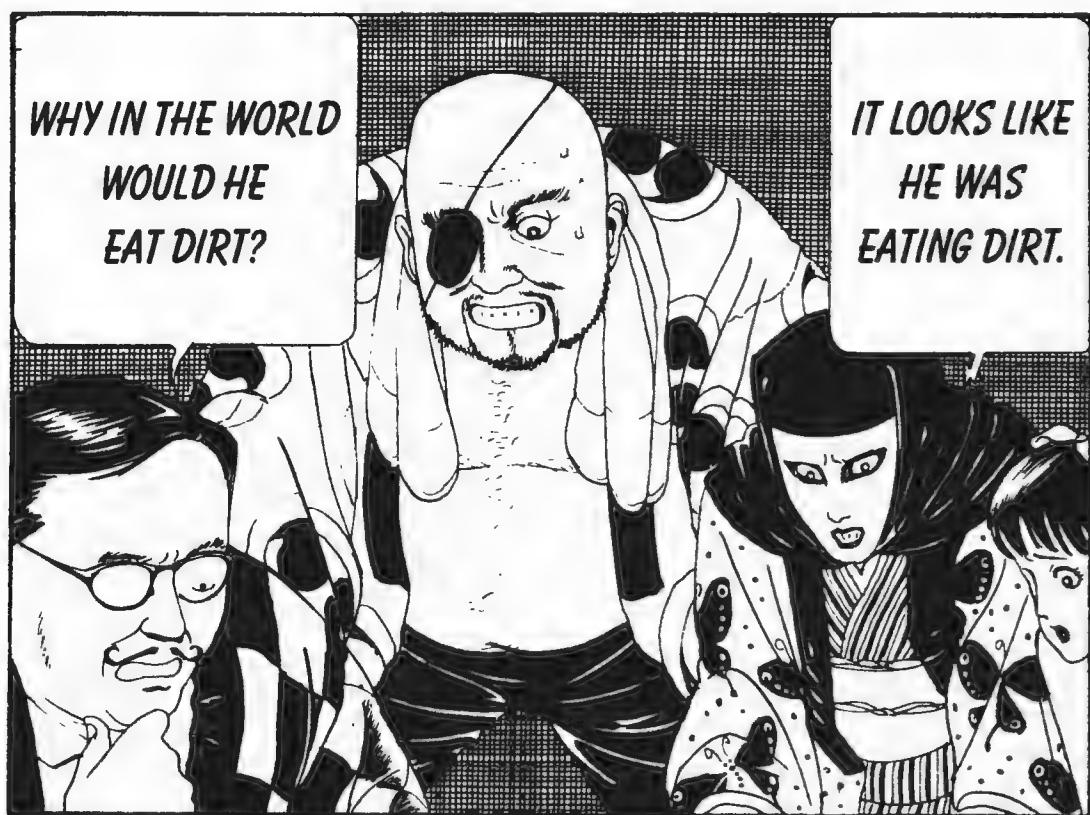




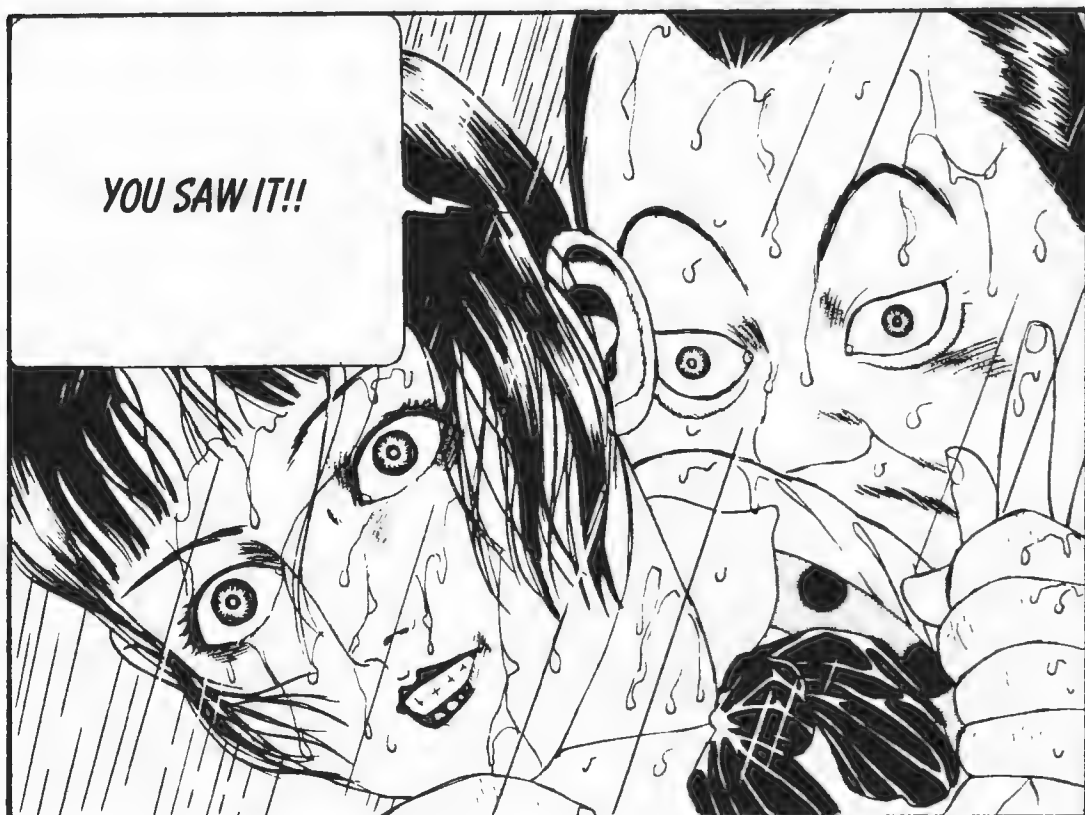
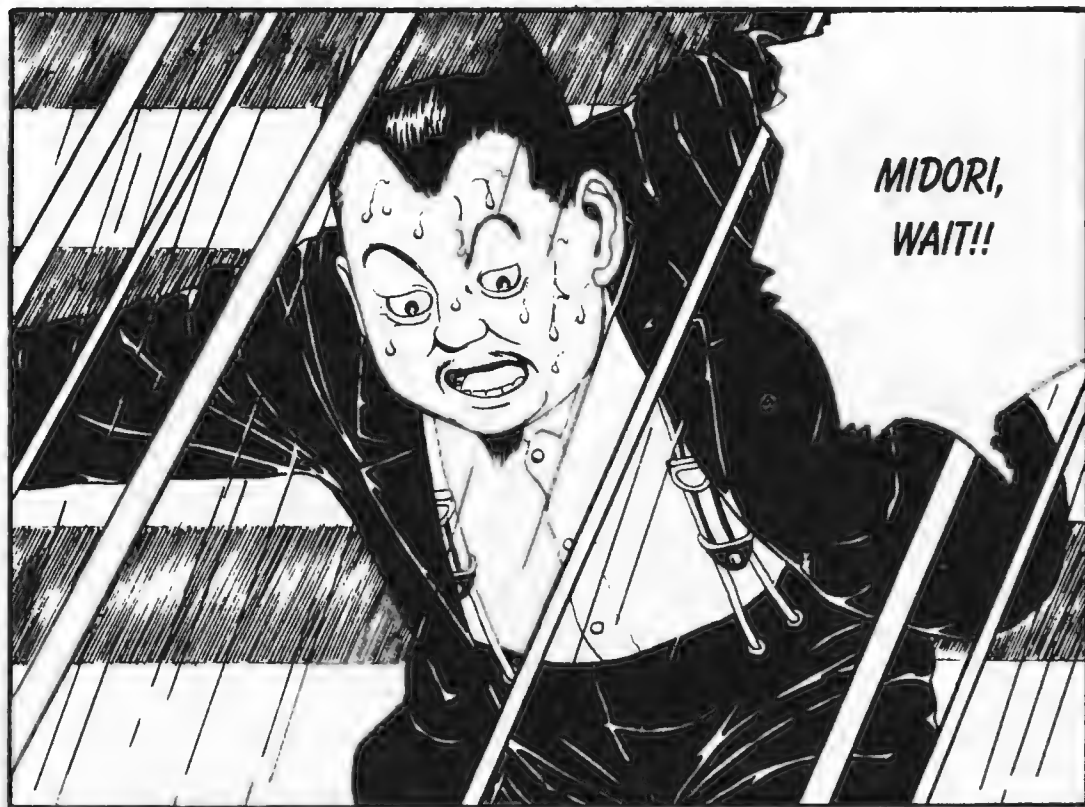
















YES, I SAW IT!!  
YOU WERE  
SHOVING DIRT  
IN HIS MOUTH...



THEY'D HUNT US DOWN  
IF THEY  
FOUND OUT.

WE MUSN'T  
TELL A SOUL.



... I'M SCARED!



I DID IT  
FOR YOU,  
MIDORI.



WE'RE  
BETTER OFF  
WITH THAT  
ASSHOLE DEAD.





HEY, MIDORI,  
YOU GOT  
SOME VISITORS  
HERE.

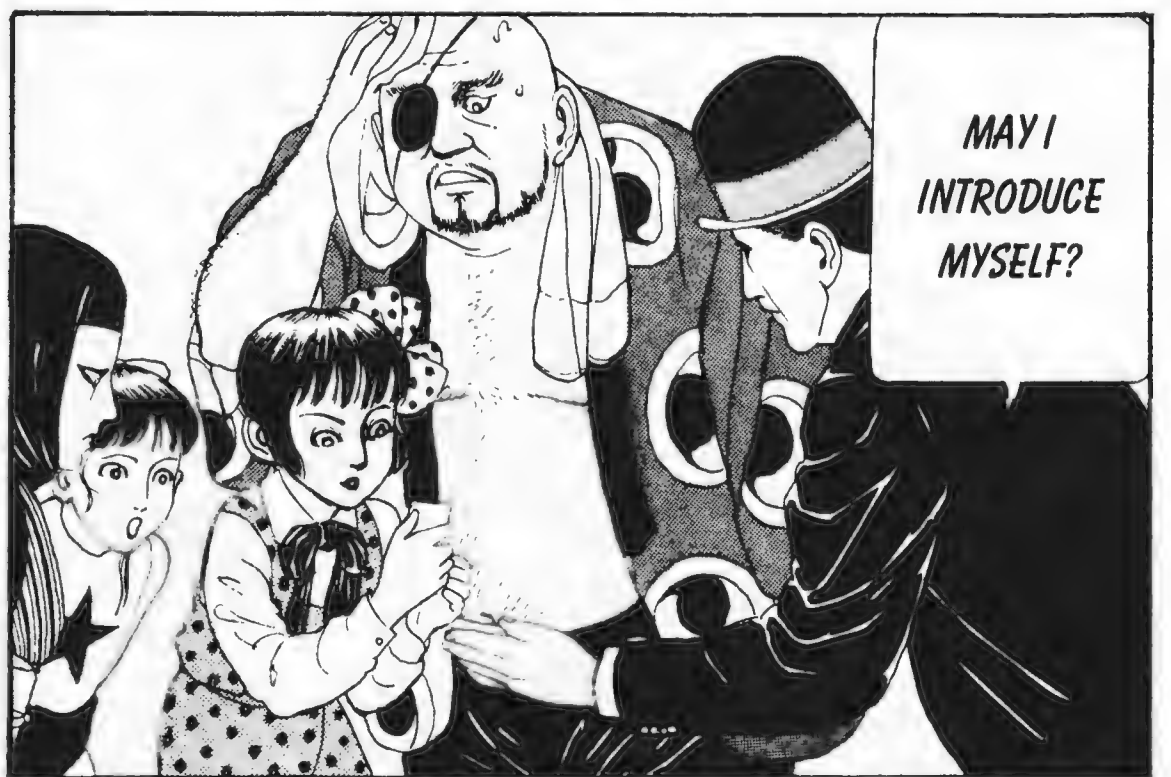


WE'D LIKE  
TO SEE  
MISS MIDORI.

HELLO,  
EXCUSE ME.



WE'D LIKE YOU  
TO STAR  
IN A MOVIE.



MAY I  
INTRODUCE  
MYSELF?



THE MOVIES!!

WOW!  
SHOCHIKU  
STUDIOS!





YOU MUST  
STAR IN  
OUR FILM.

FROM NOW ON YOU'LL LIVE  
LIKE A PRINCESS INSTEAD OF  
BEING A CHILD SLAVE  
TO THESE FILTHY  
CARNIVAL FREAKS.



YOU'LL BE  
AN OVERNIGHT  
SENSATION.



AT LAST  
WE HAVE  
FOUND OUR  
NEW STAR!

WE'VE SEEN  
YOUR STAGE  
PERFORMANCE  
AND YOU'RE JUST  
THE GIRL WE NEED.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR  
A GIRL TO PLAY  
THE LEAD IN OUR  
NEW FEATURE FILM,  
**WISHING  
ON A STAR.**

HUMPH.  
MIDORI GOT  
THE LEAD  
ROLE.



YOU'LL BE SERVED  
THE FINEST DELICACIES  
AND TREATED  
LIKE ROYALTY.

FROM HERE ON IN  
YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE  
IN A PALACE.



















## CHAPTER SIX

# THE RECKONING

## Geld um Ehre nehmen!!

DIGNITY FOR SALE

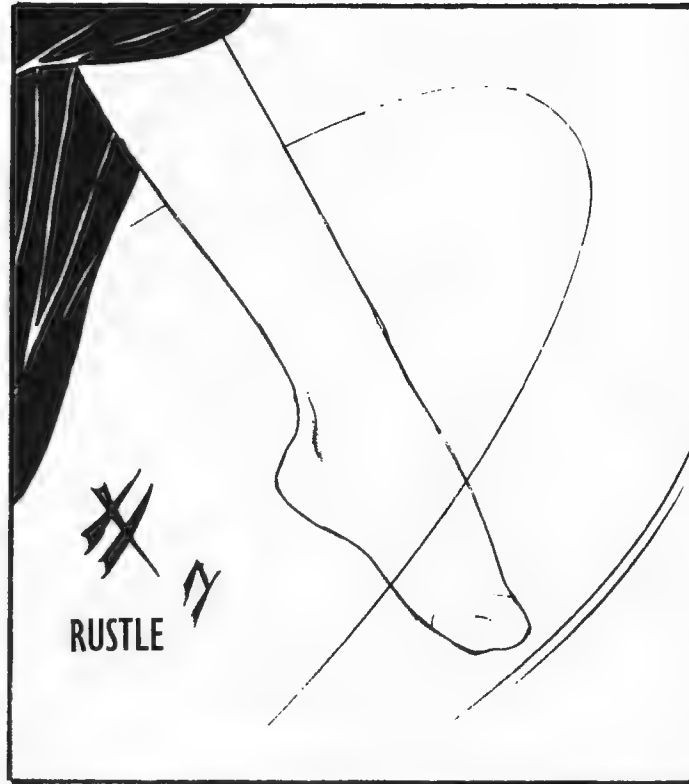
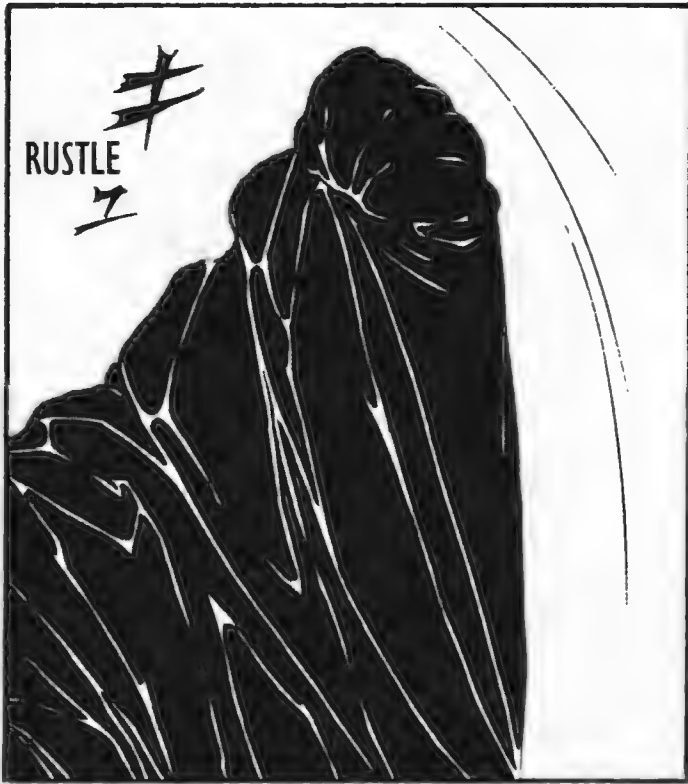


Mule-Faced Woman  
Glomming Geek  
Human Torch  
Alligator Lady  
Amazon Giantess  
Sword Swallower  
Human Pincushion  
Big Bertha  
Pin-Headed Boy  
Confounding Contortionist  
Fish-Faced Girl  
Hermaphrodite  
Pickled Punk  
Mesmer the Mentalist  
Double-Bodied Wonder  
Iron-Tongued Marvel  
Four-Legged Girl  
Third-Sex Family

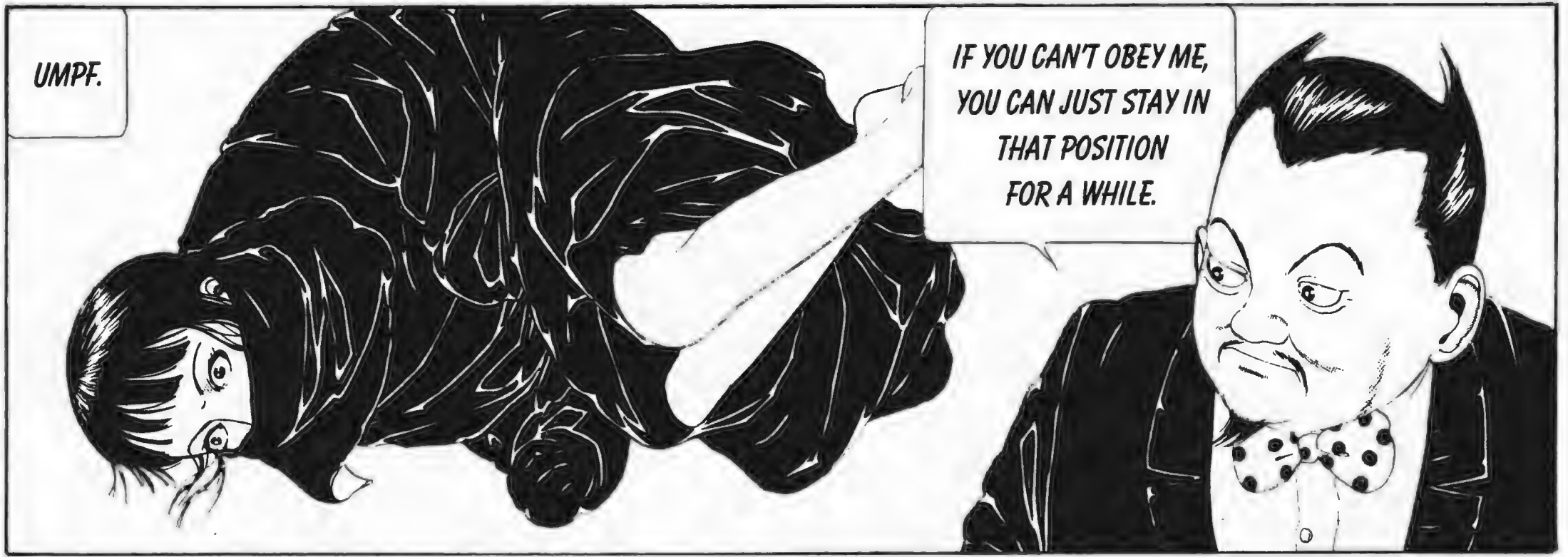
Frog Boy  
Headless Girl  
Tattooed Marvel  
Fire Eater  
Eighth Wonder of the World  
Snake Charmer  
Triple-Jointed Dwarf  
Dog-Faced Woman  
Mammoth Maniac  
Windbag Man  
Gargantua  
Blockhead  
Popeye  
Pretzel Man  
Pig-Faced Lady  
Human Cannonball  
Eighty-Year-Old Boy  
Anatomical Wonder

The Human Lightning Rod  
Amazing Memory Man  
Cloven-Hoofed Girl  
Perplexing Prestidigitateur  
Herculean Hulk  
Incombustible Woman  
Fire King  
Stone Eater  
The Human Aquarium  
Le Pétomane  
Man with X-Ray Eyes  
Fire Walker  
Mermaid Baby  
Horned Woman  
Armless Wonder  
Iron-Neck Phenomenon  
Two-Faced Man  
The Human Knot

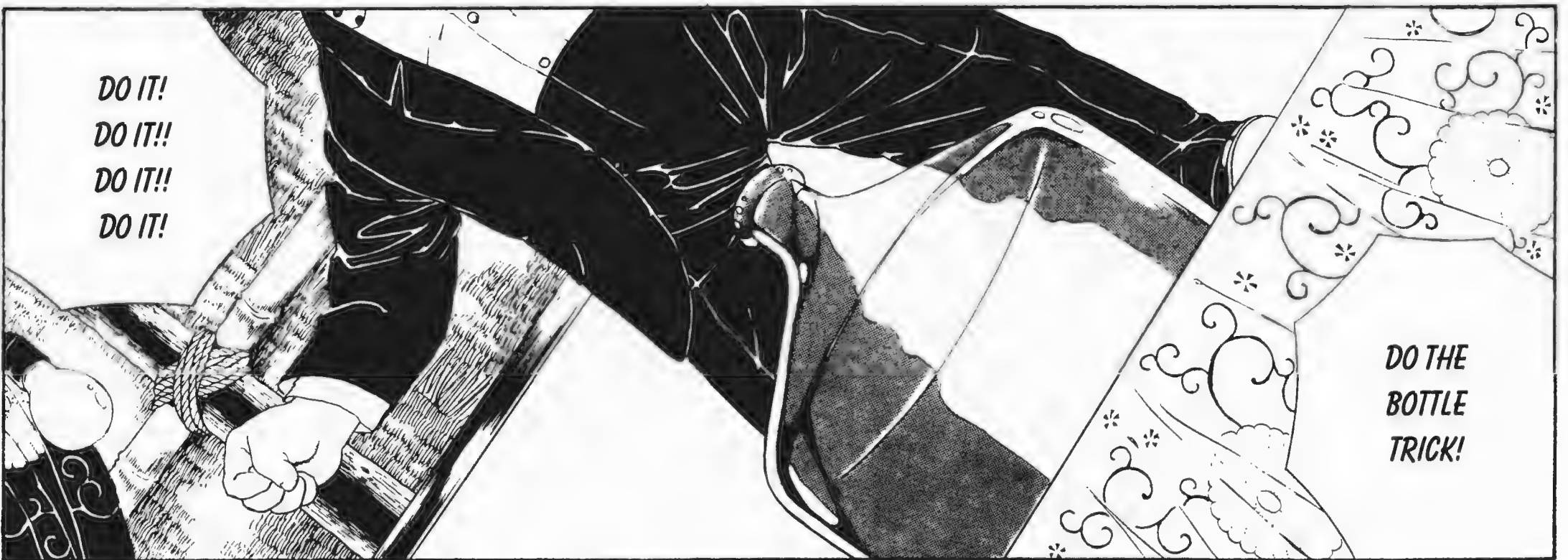




















*YOU'RE  
GONNA BE SORRY!!*



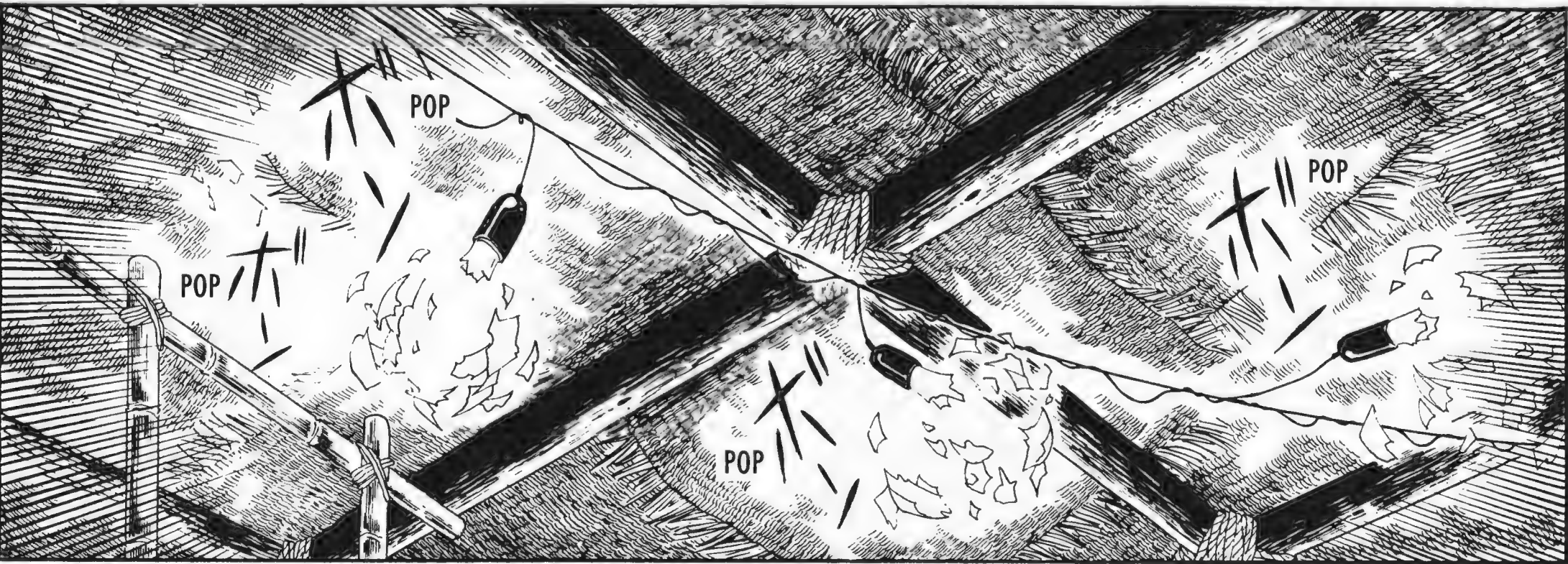
*YOU!!  
YOU SHOULDN'T  
HAVE SAID THAT.*

*YOU'RE  
GONNA BE SORRY!!*



*YOU!!  
YOU SHOULDN'T  
HAVE SAID THAT.*

**FUCKING  
MIDGET...!!**



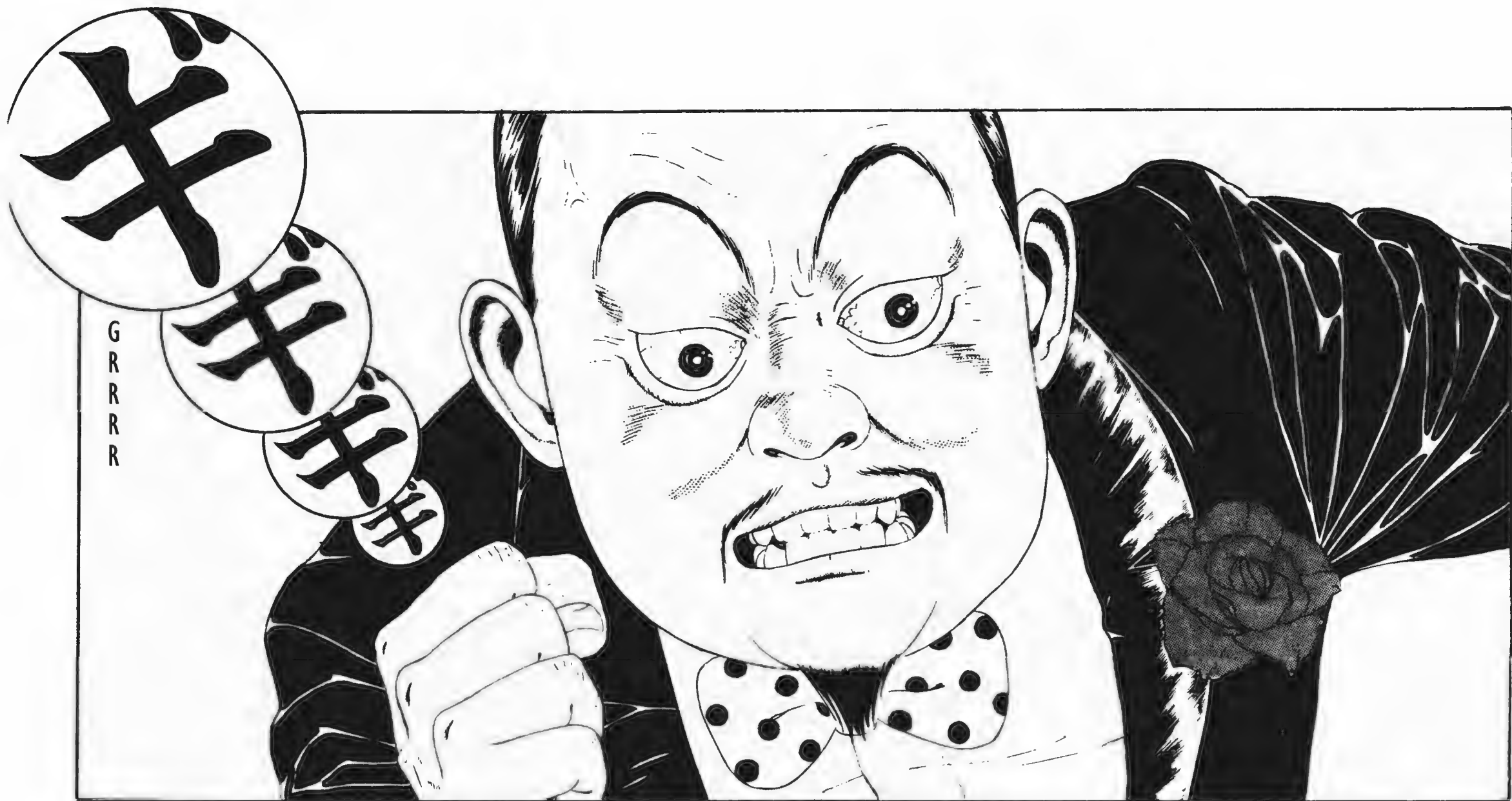
YAAAAAA!!

WAAAH!!

YAAAAAA!!

WAAAH!!











OOO-WAAAH

DRRRRK



OOO-WAAAH







WHAT  
THE HELL...



AHHH...  
AHHH...  
ST...  
STOP IT!!  
AWUHHH...

STOP IT!!  
PLEASE!  
PLEASE!  
STOP!!  
STOP!!

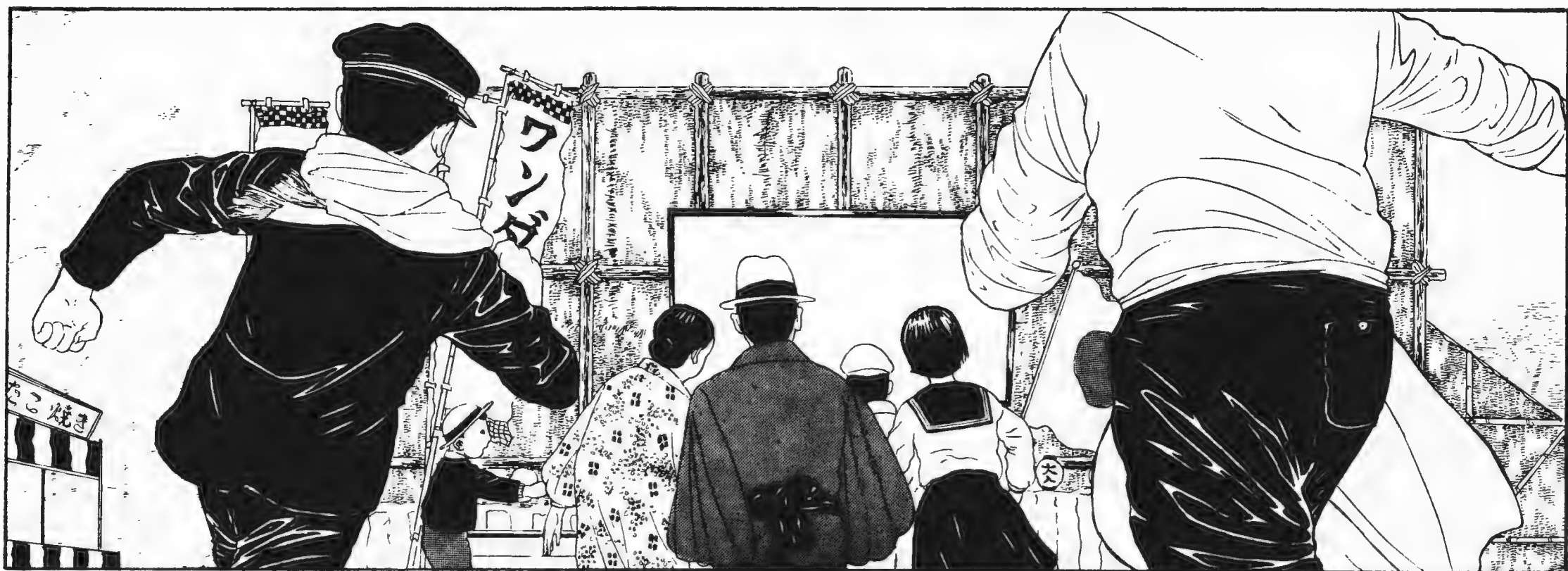




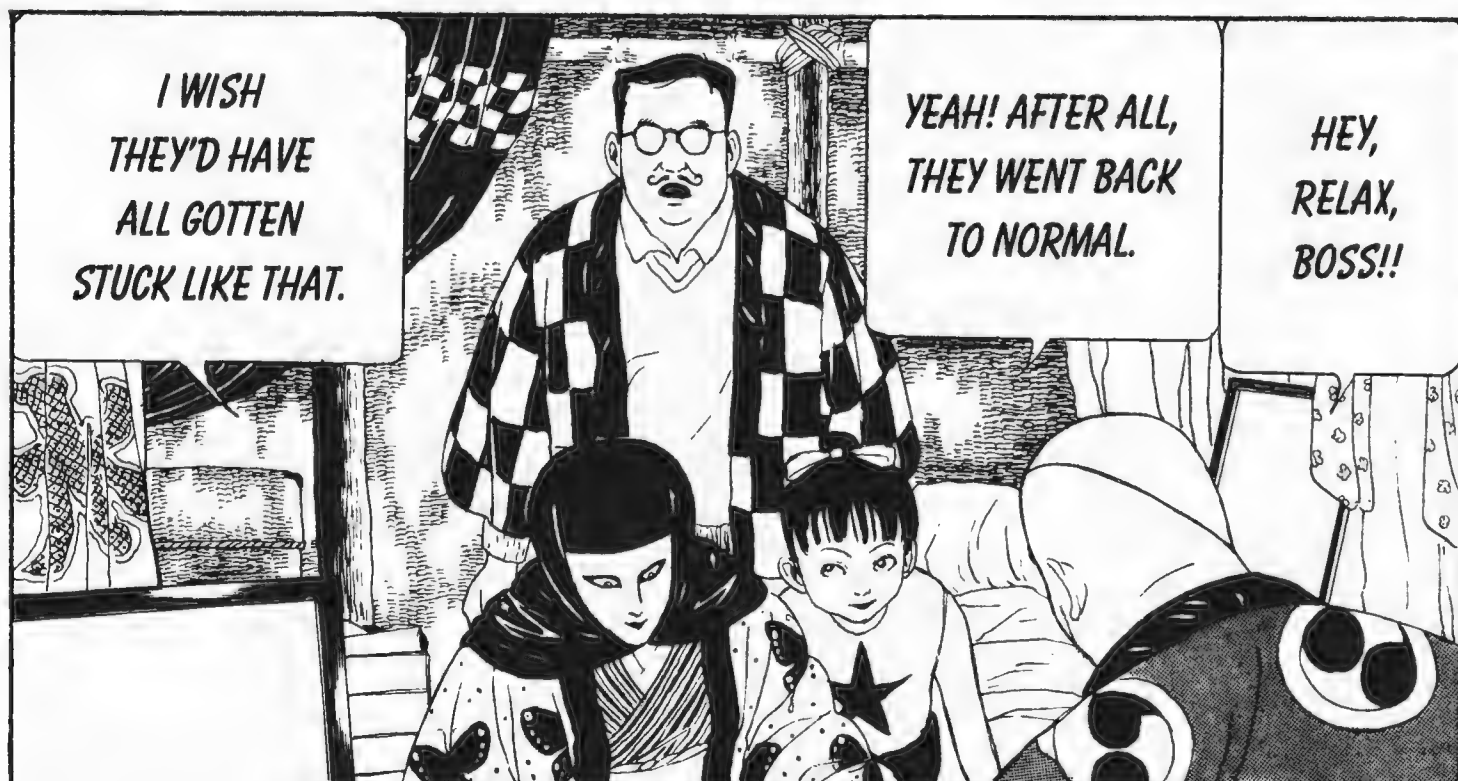




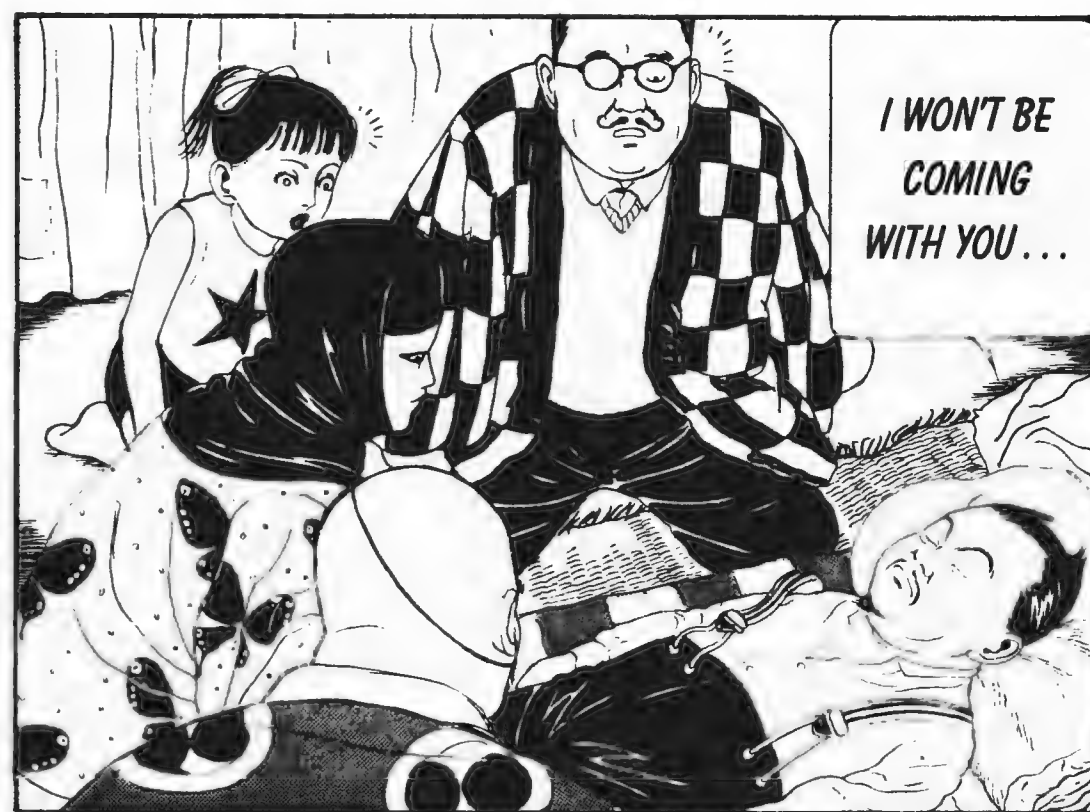




















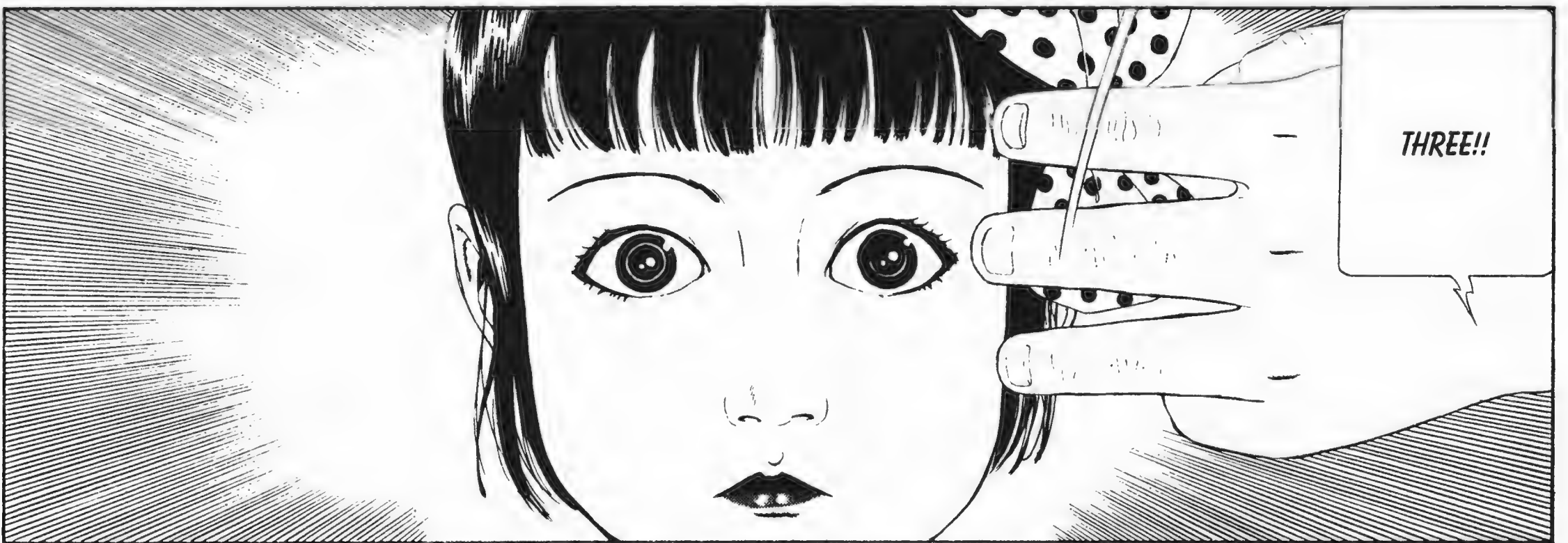


**CHAPTER  
SEVEN**

**'TIL  
DEATH  
DO US  
PART**







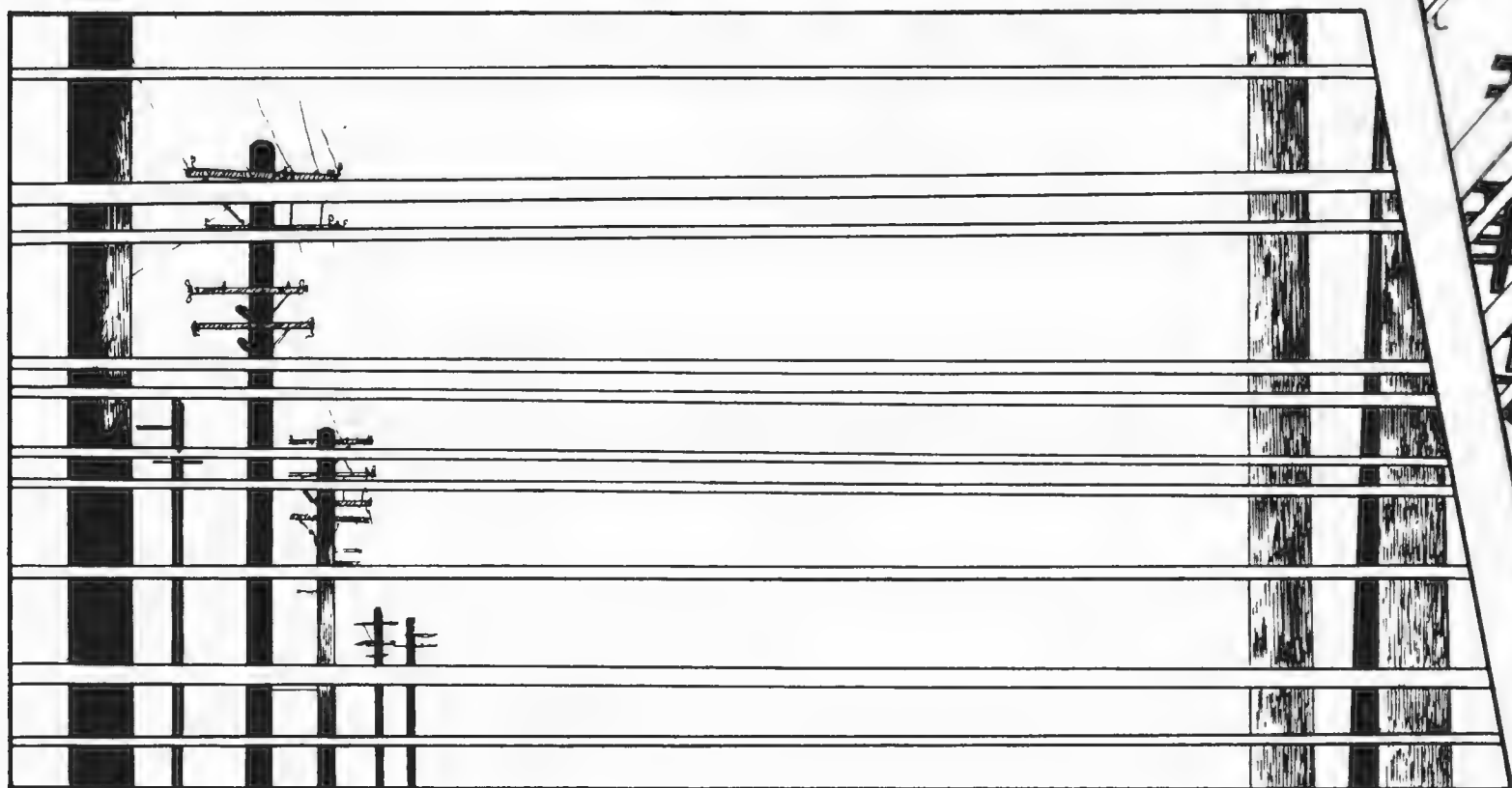




















MIDORI,  
WHY ARE YOU  
SO LATE?  
YOU KNOW  
BETTER  
THAN THAT!



COME ON  
AND GET YOUR  
DINNER SO I CAN  
FINISH CLEANING  
UP THE TABLE.

MIDORI,  
WHAT'S THE  
MATTER?



WHAT'S  
THAT?

HERE  
YOU ARE.



YEP.





THANK YOU,  
DADDY.



YOUR DADDY  
BROUGHT IT  
HOME FOR YOU.

SOME SNACKS  
FOR THE  
FIELD TRIP  
WITH YOUR CLASS  
TOMORROW.

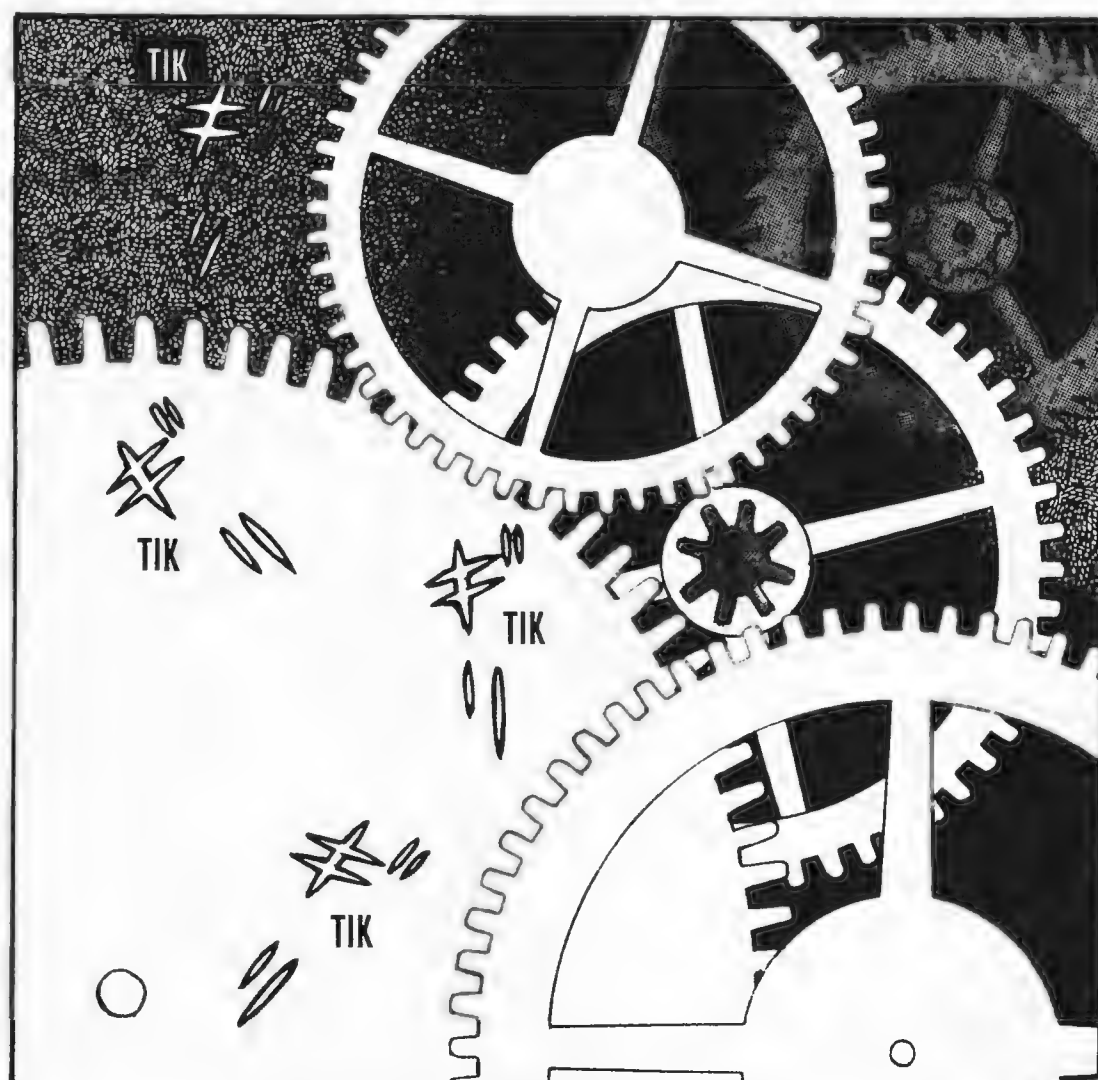
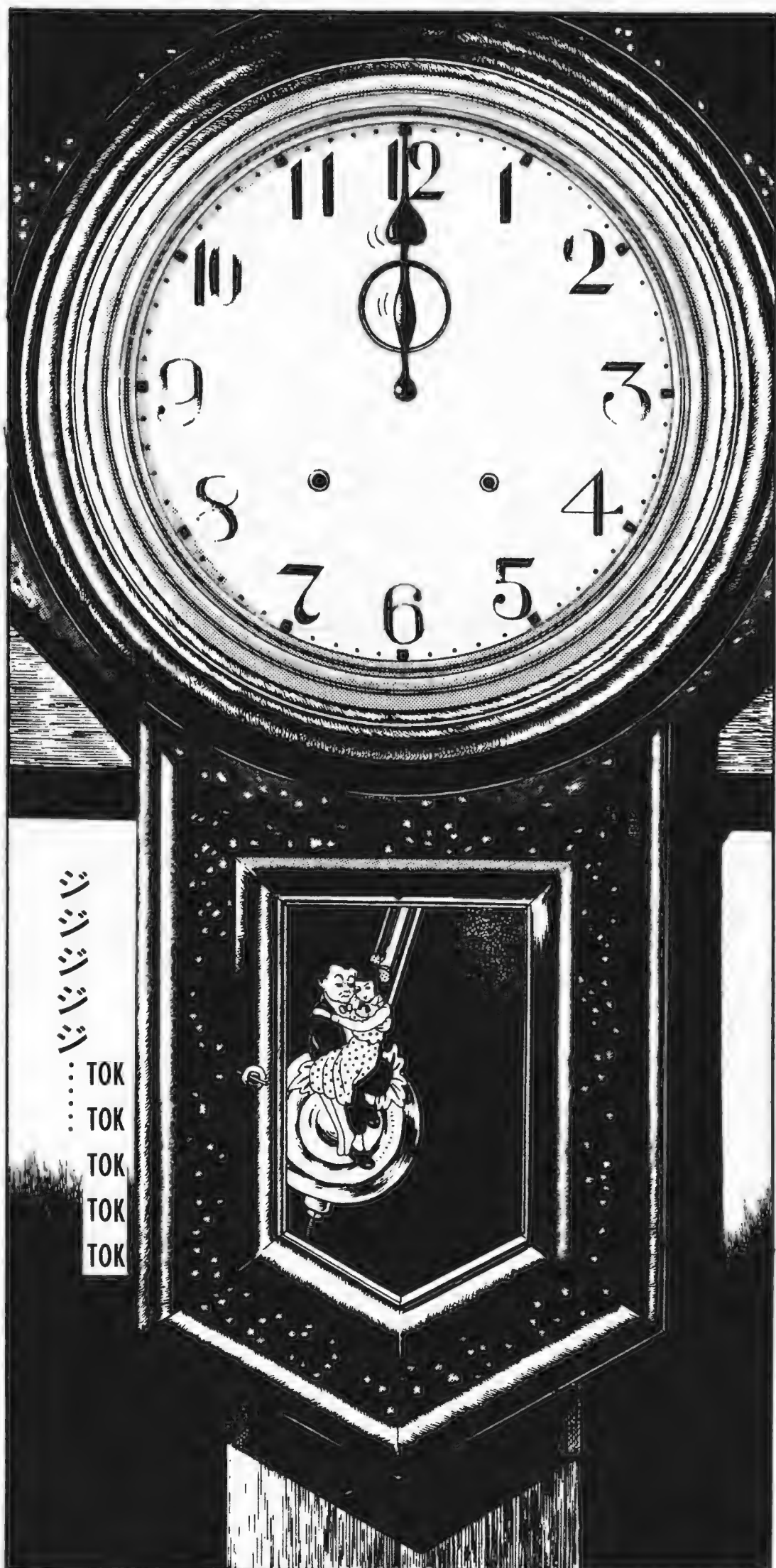


YEP!!

I WANT YOU TO GET  
TO BED A LITTLE EARLY  
TONIGHT SO YOU  
WON'T OVERSLEEP  
IN THE MORNING.







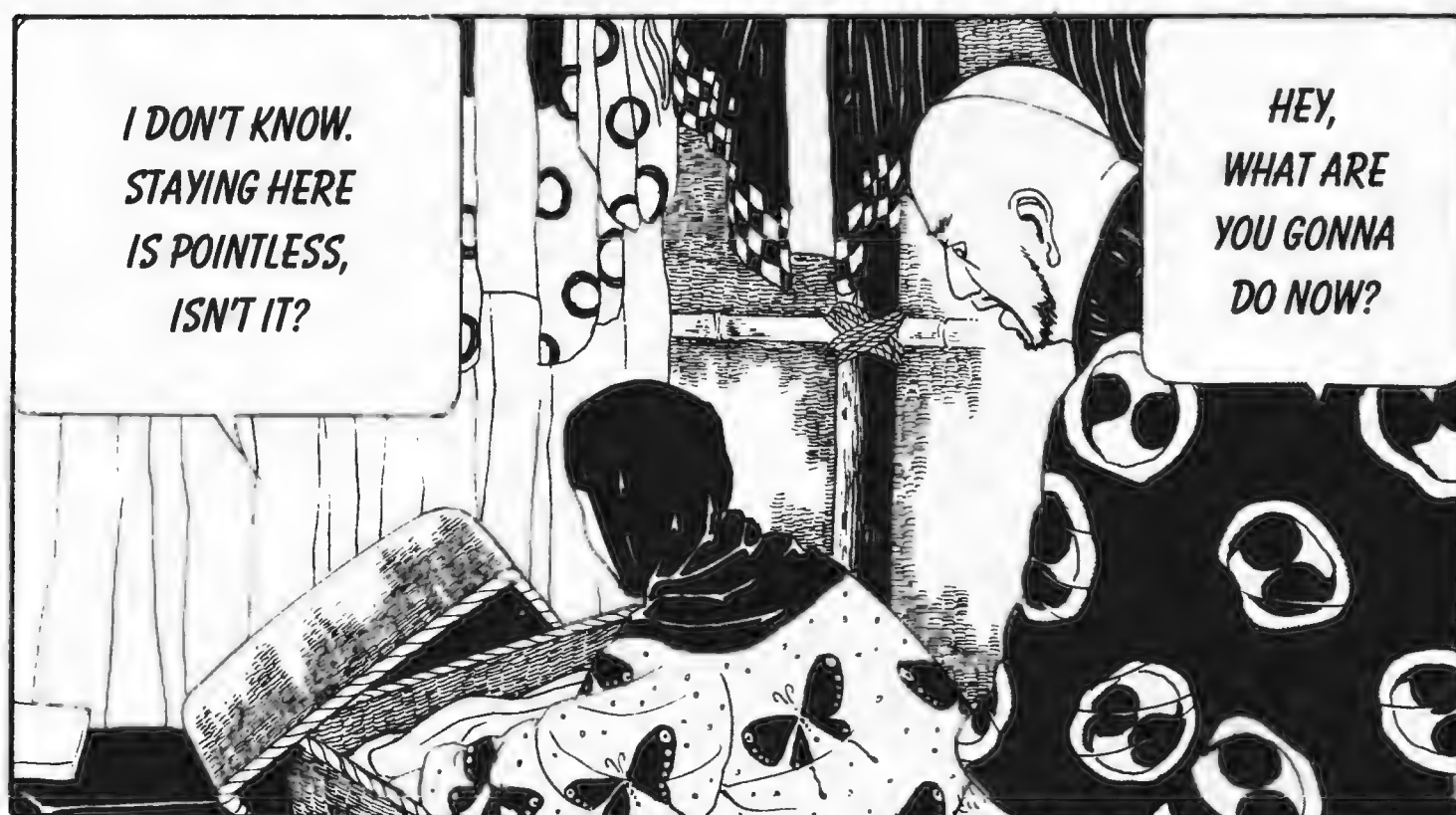




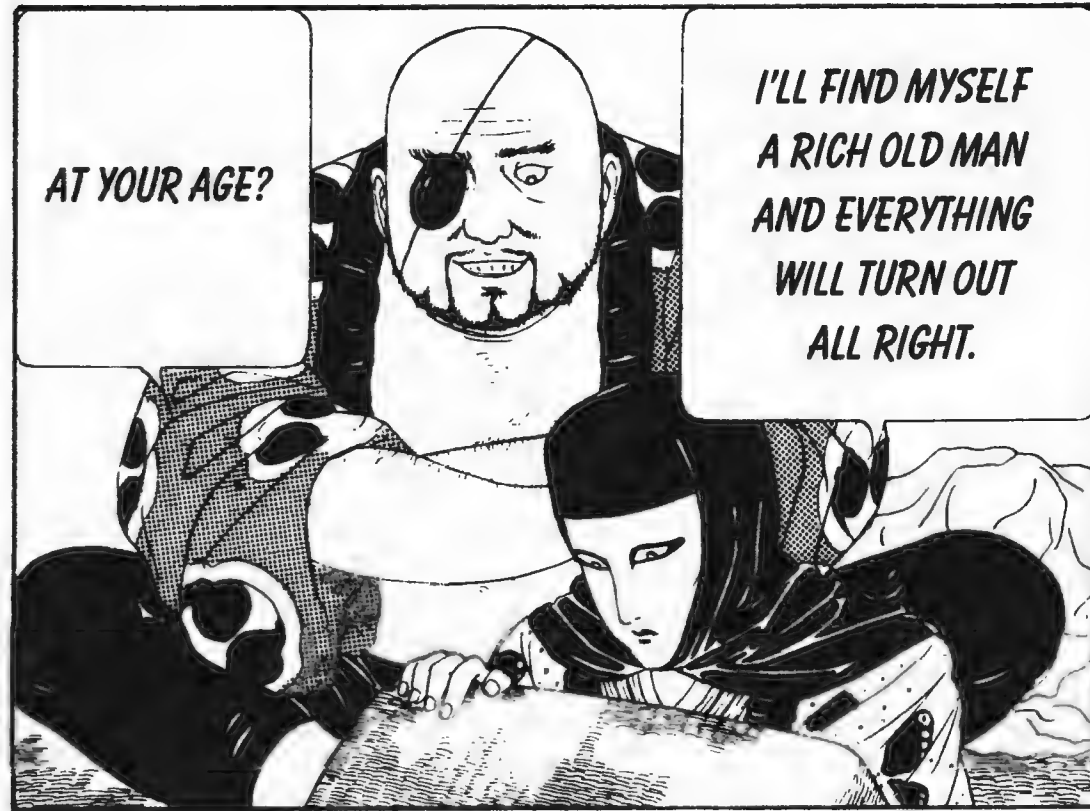
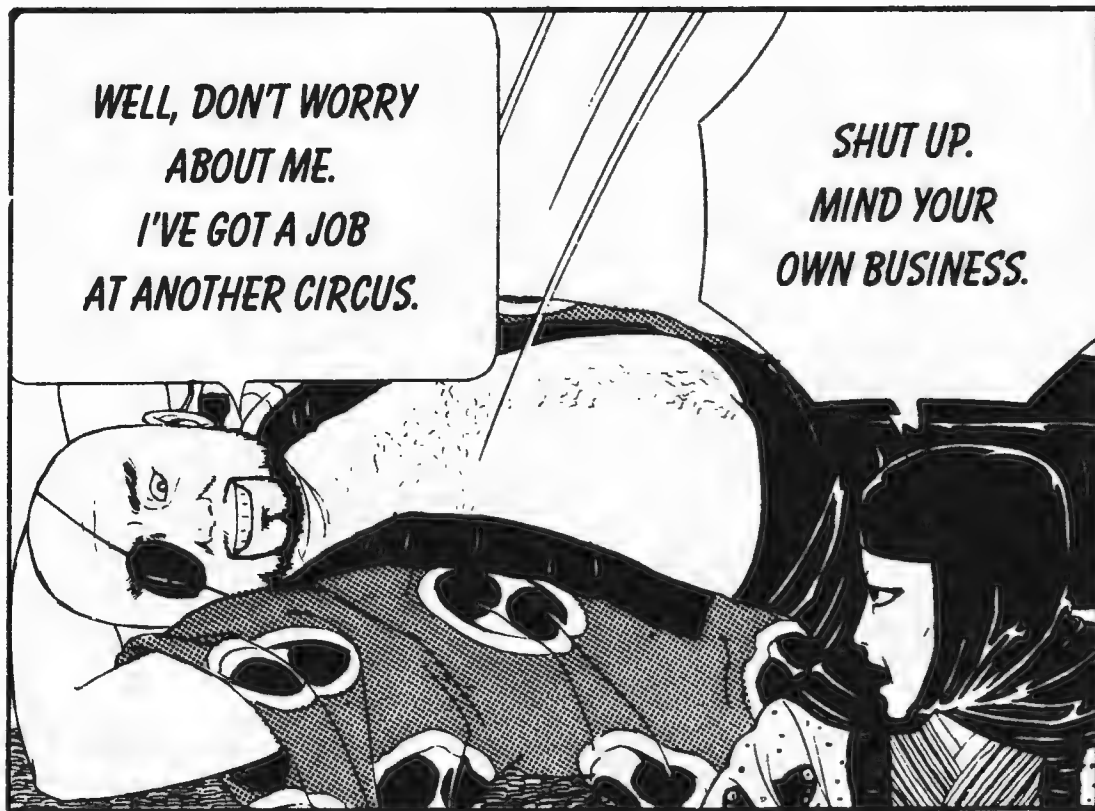




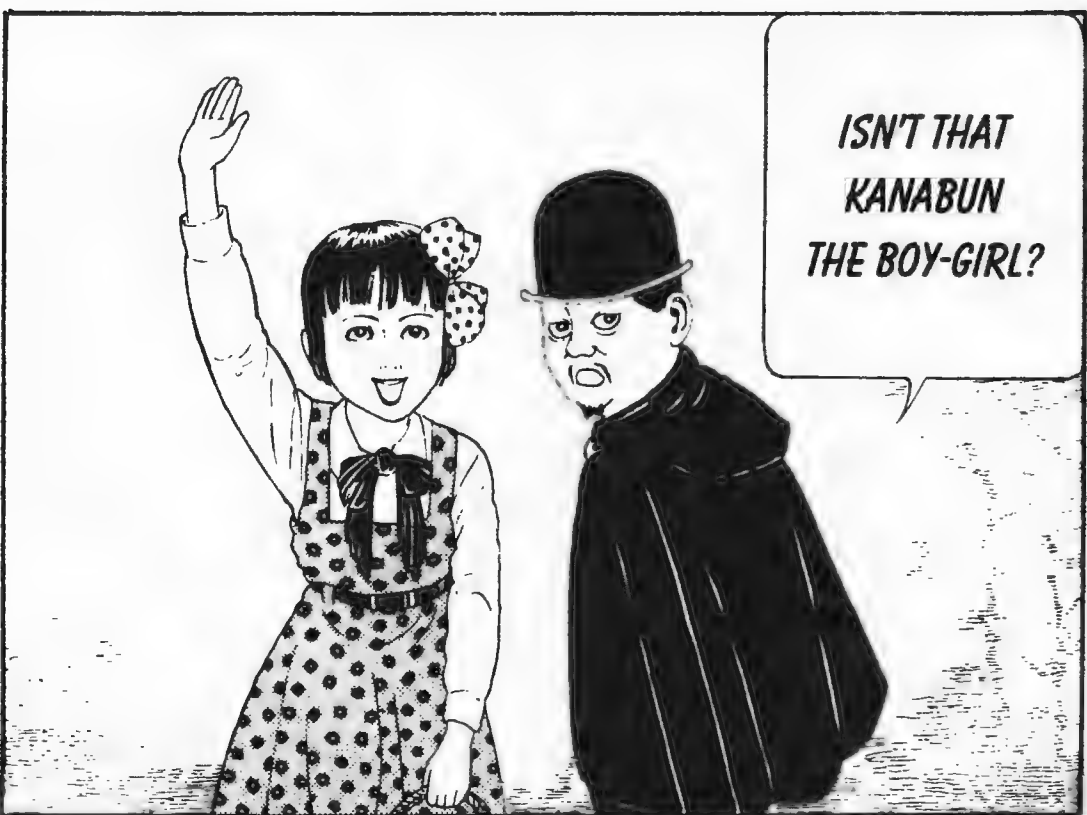
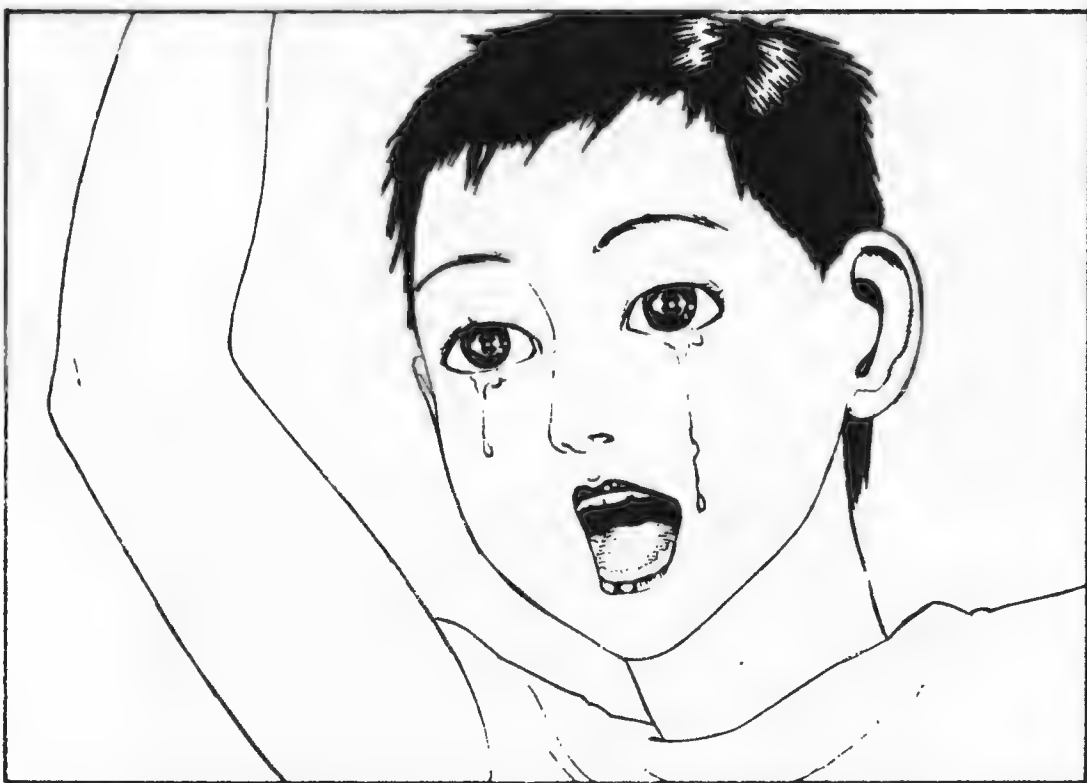
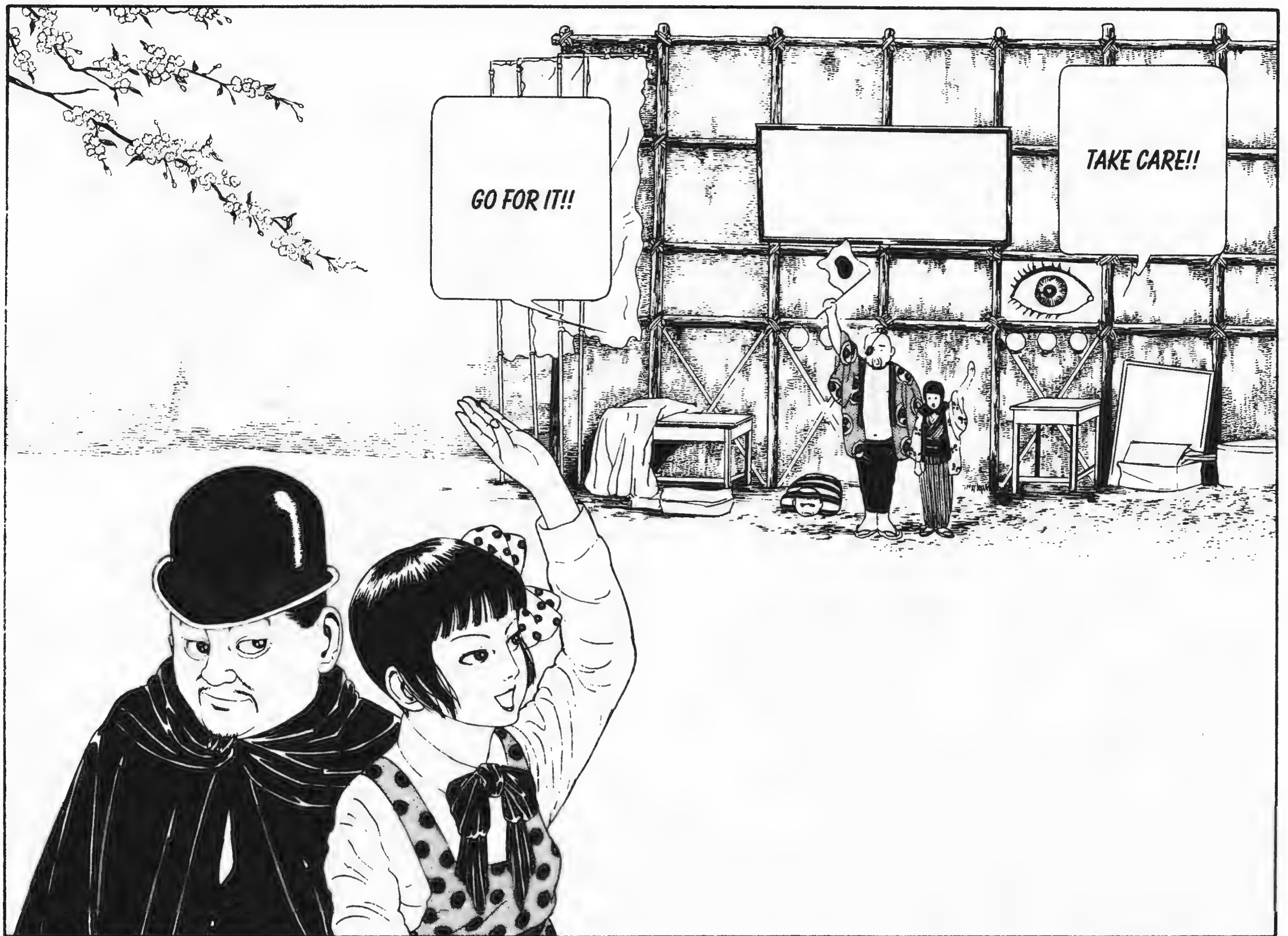












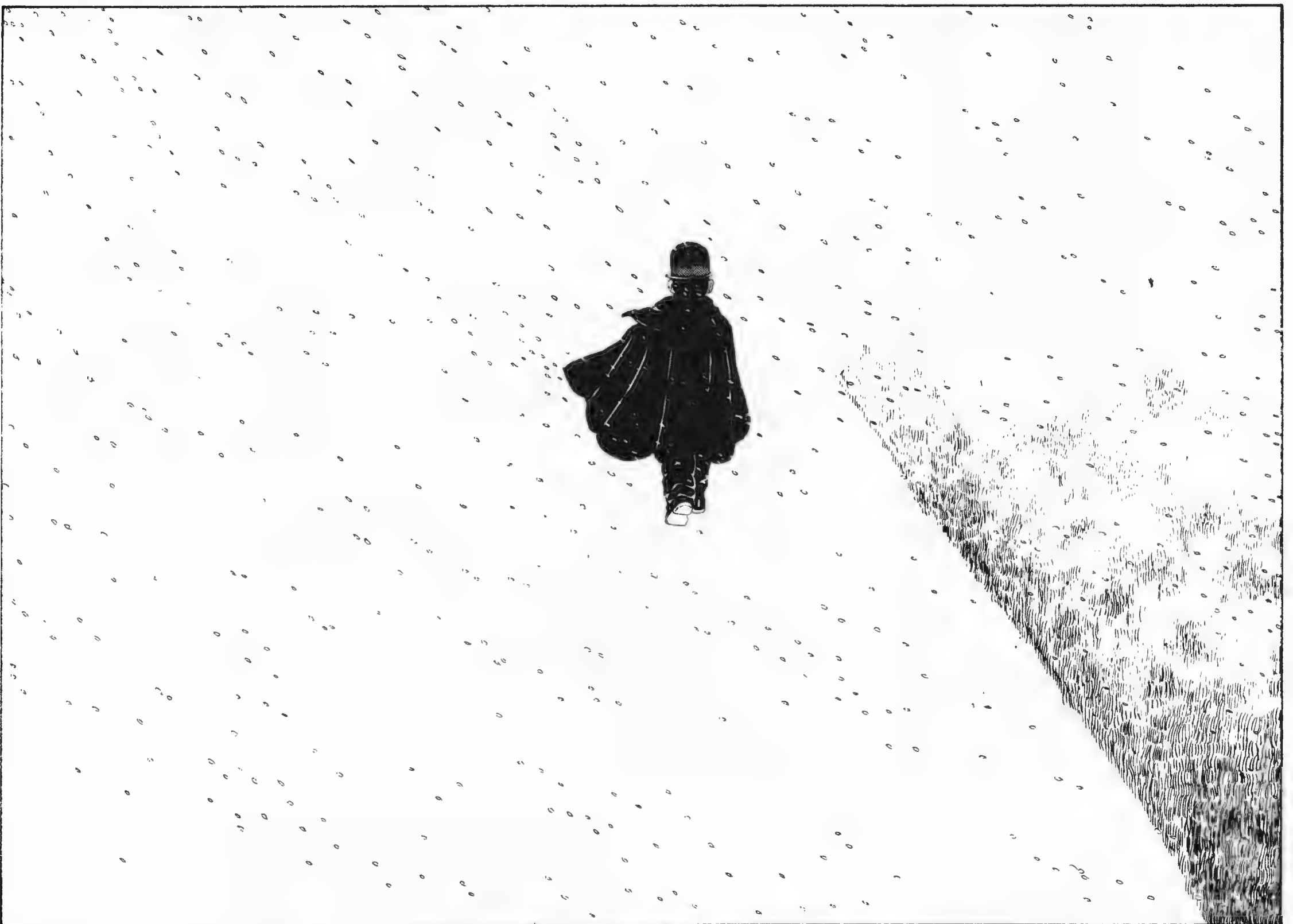


I HOPE I WILL  
SEE THEM AGAIN  
SOMEDAY.

I HOPE SO TOO.





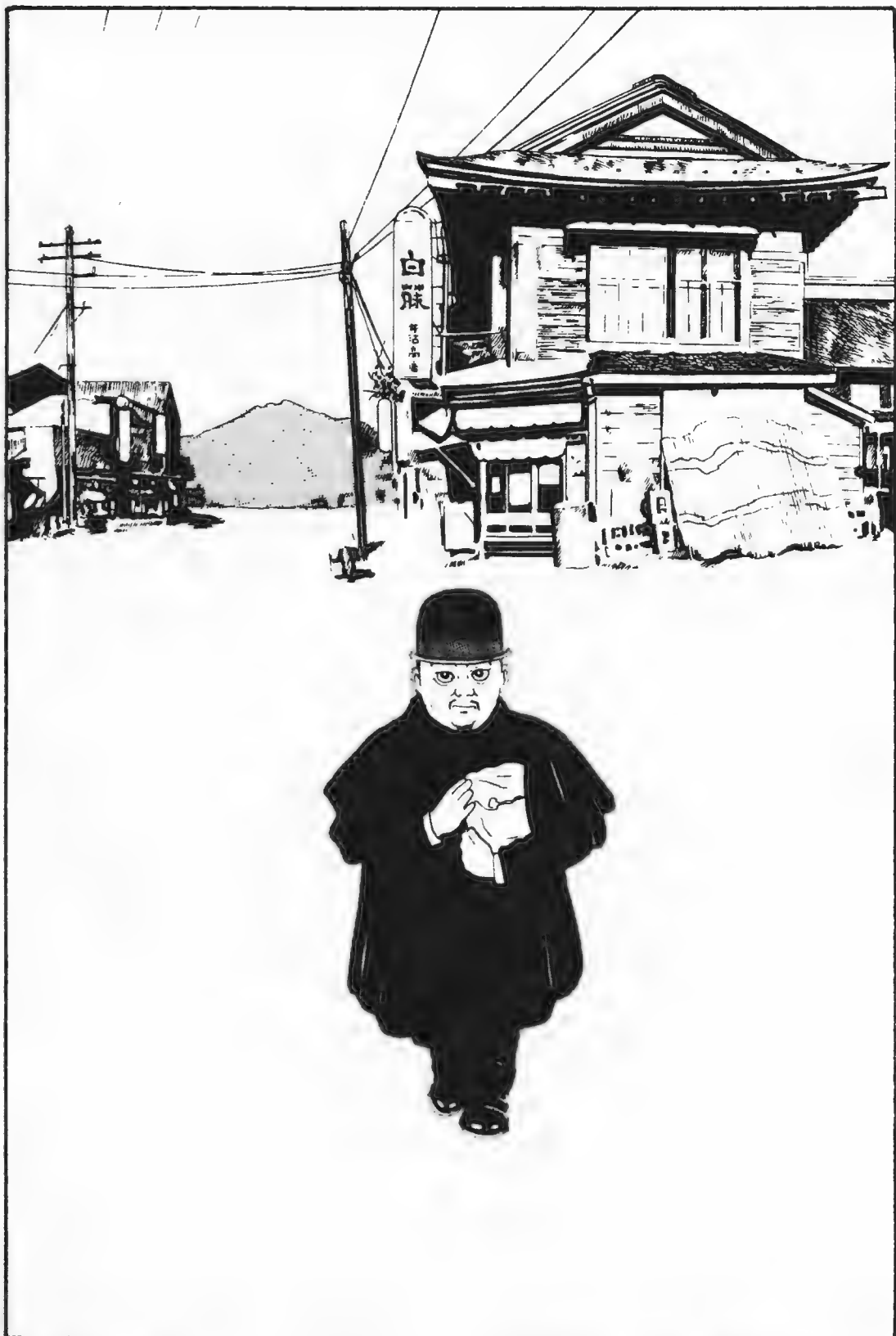




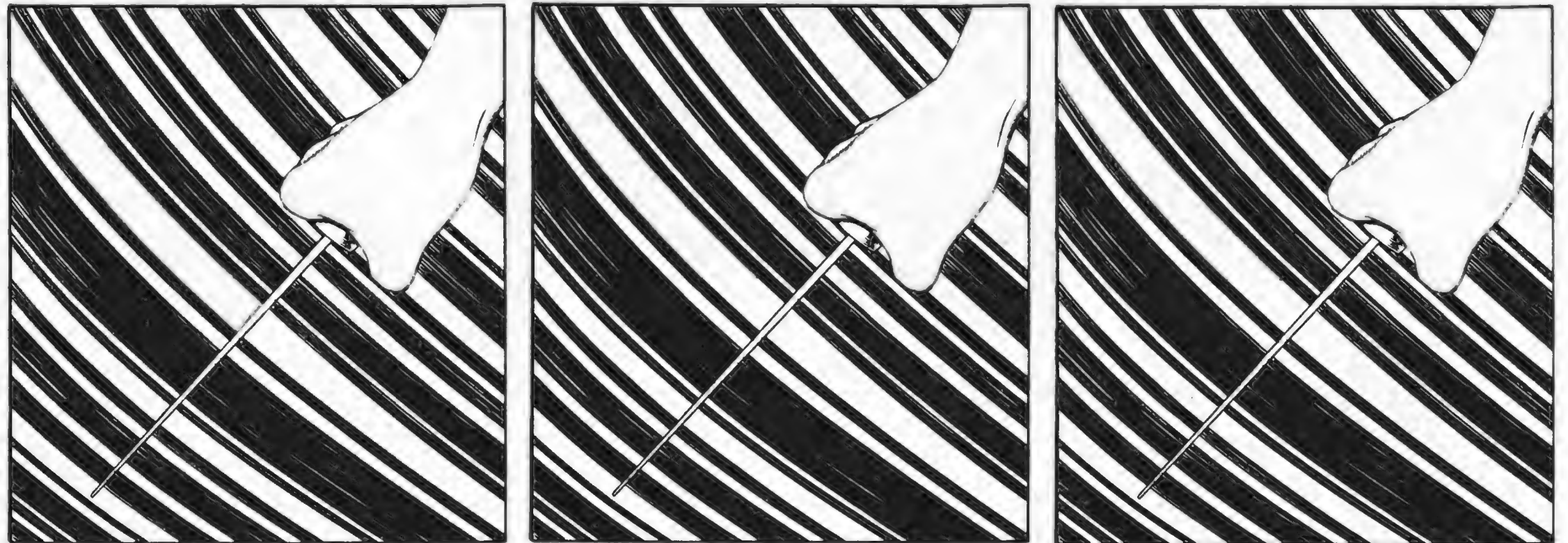
# FAREWELL, SWEET CHERRY BLOSSOMS



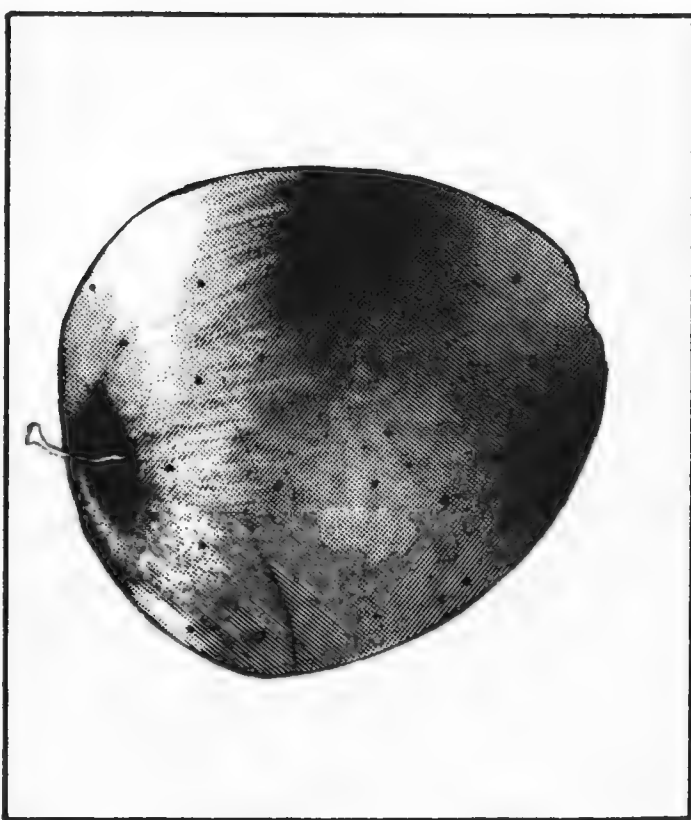




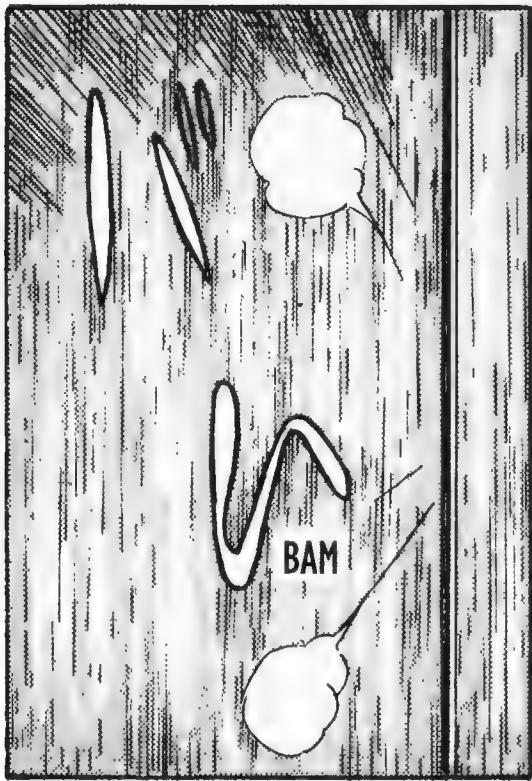












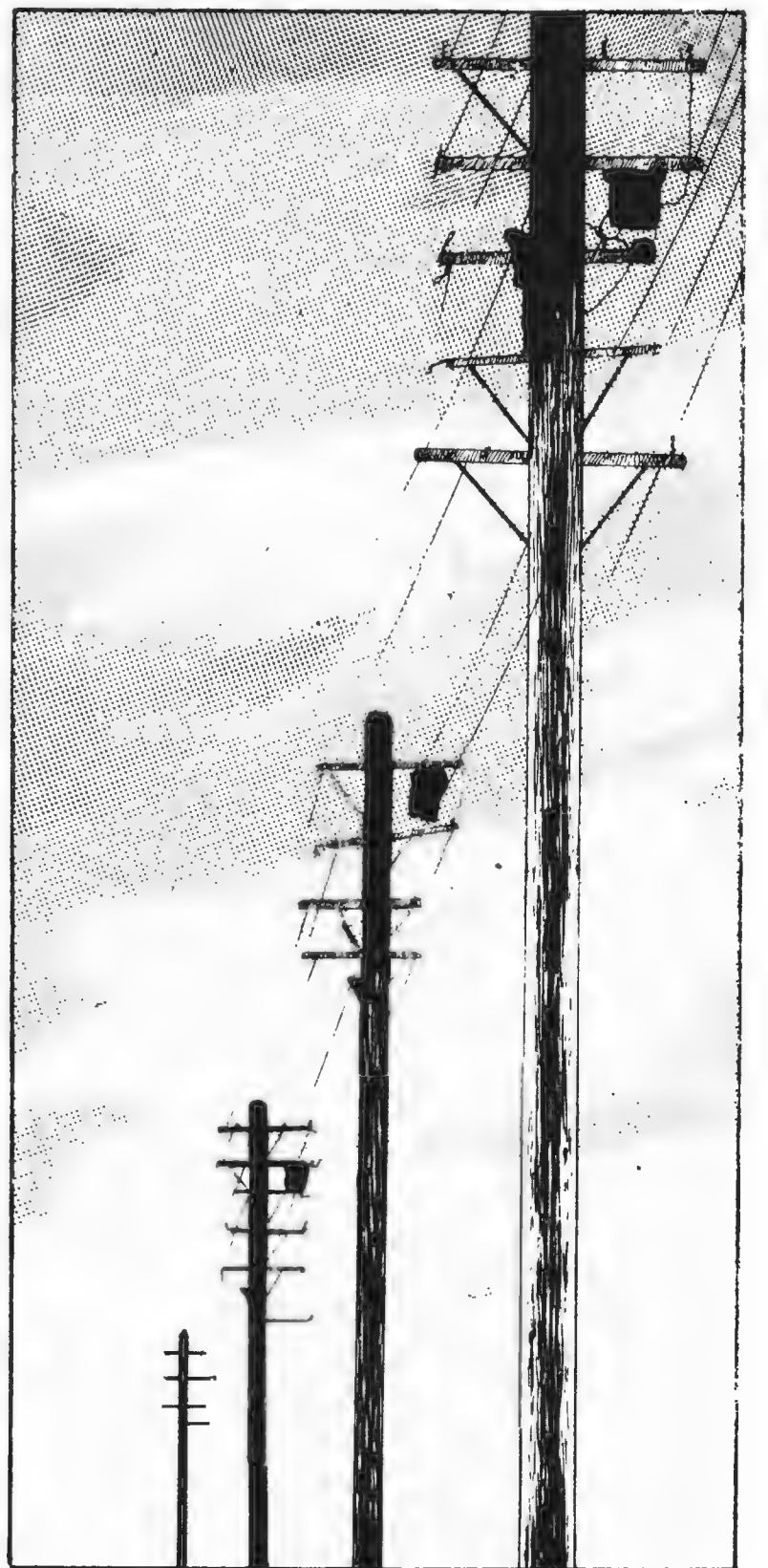
















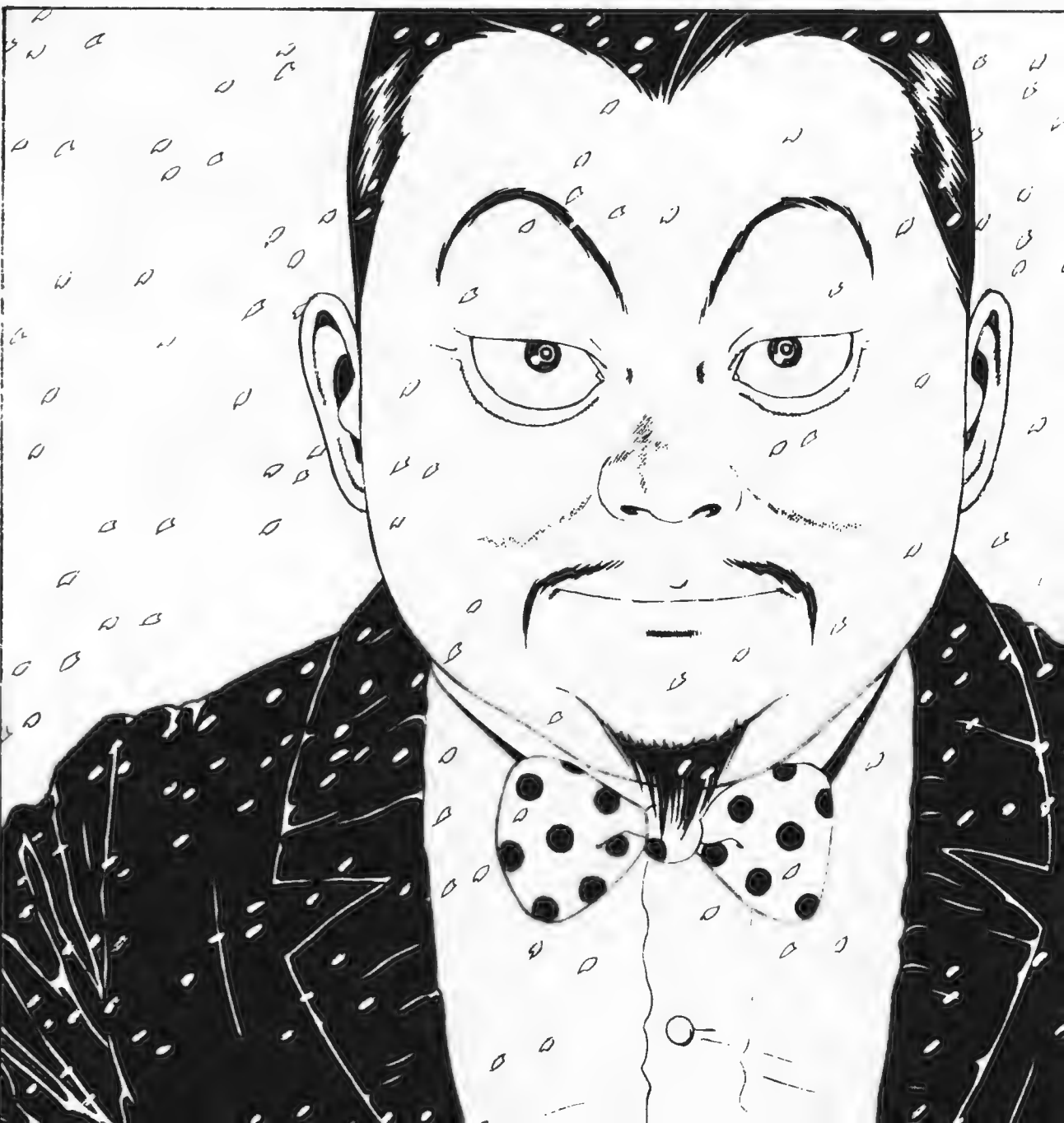








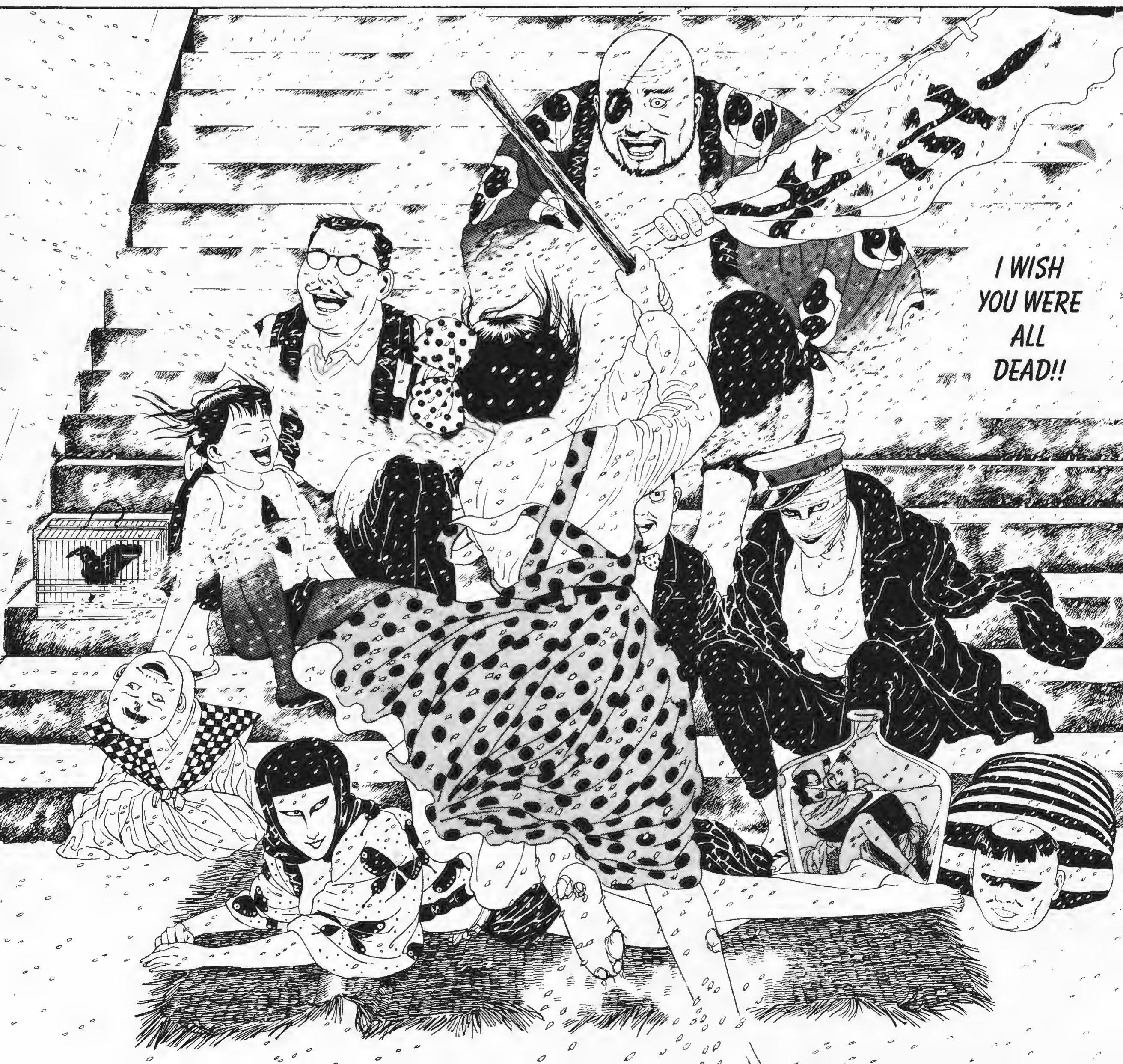
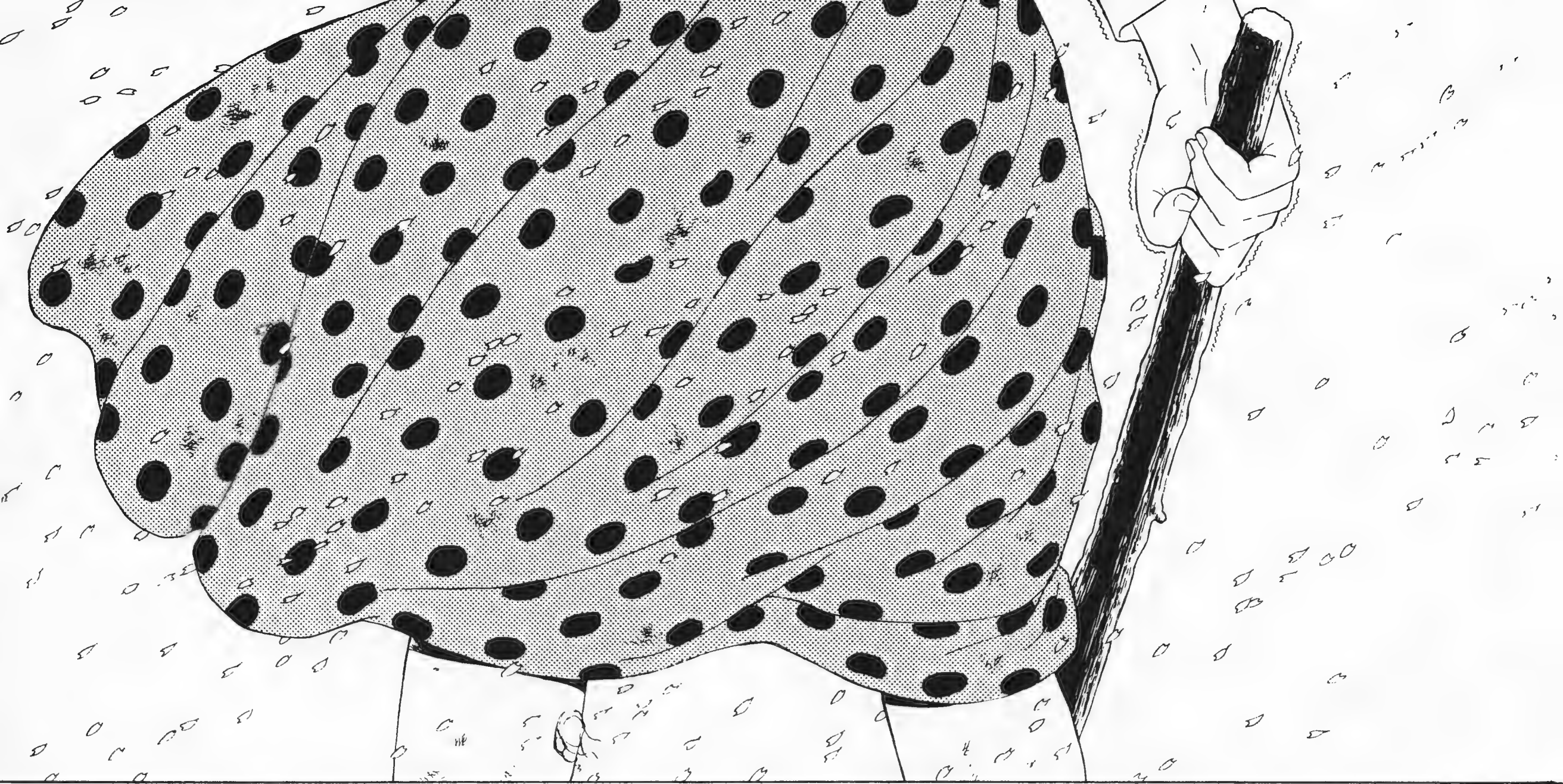










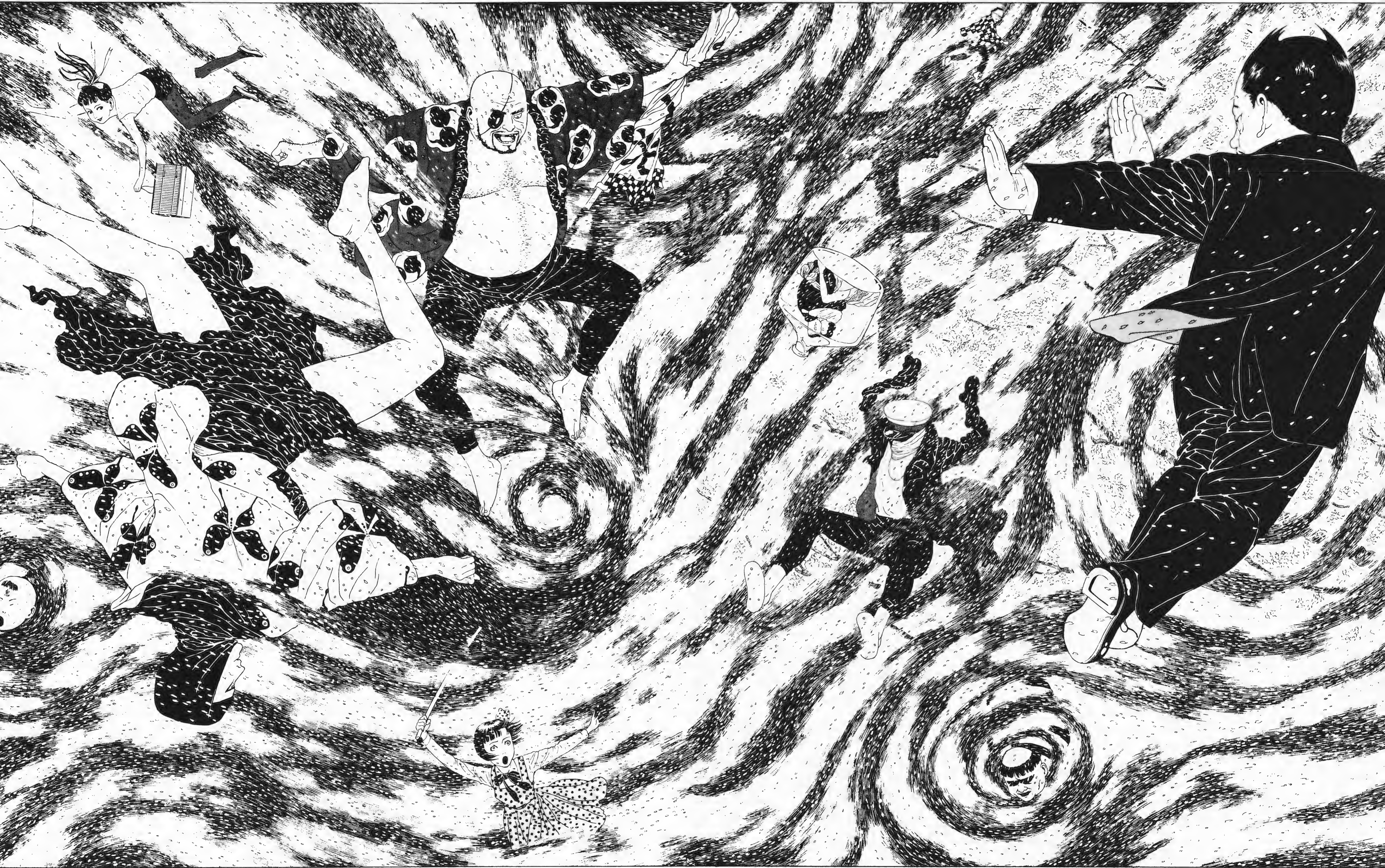


I WISH  
YOU WERE  
ALL  
DEAD!!



















WAAAAAAHHH!!  
う  
わ  
~~~~~  
ん
!!



NOTE

To preserve Suehiro Maruo's original design, *Mr. Arashi's Amazing Freak Show* has been published in the same page order as the Japanese edition.

Japanese is read from right to left—the opposite direction of English—so you'll find the beginning of this book at the back, where English-language books end.

MR. ARASHI'S AMAZING FREAK SHOW



SUEHIRO MARUO

TRANSLATED FROM THE JAPANESE BY
YOKO UMEZAWA AND LAURA LINDGREN

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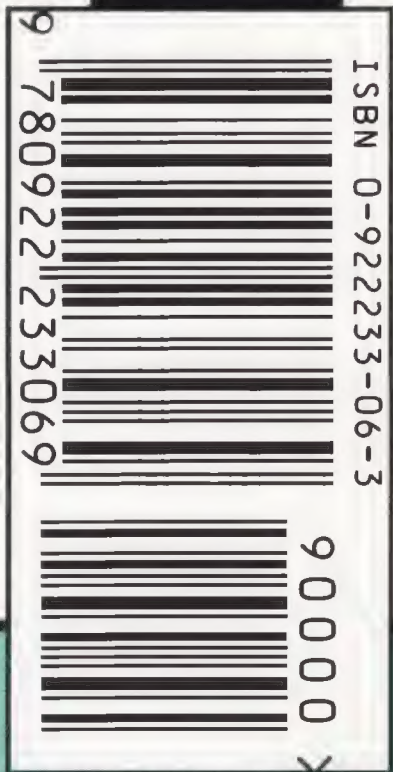
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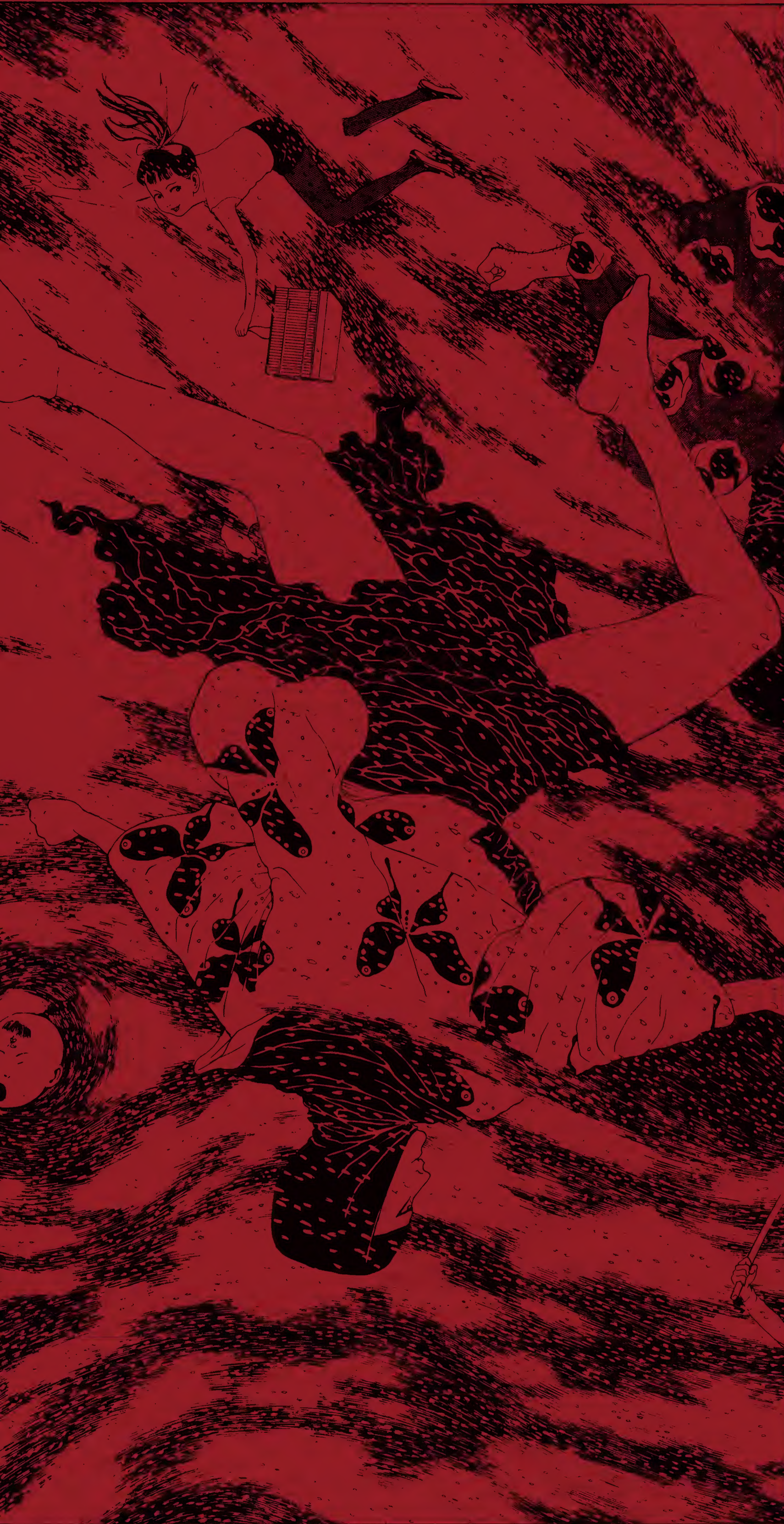
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LOVAG



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